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Lebedev Views 'New Military Glasnost'

LD211430 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1335 GMT 21 Sep 87

["On the 'New Military Glasnost' of the USSR and the Old Fabrications of the United States"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Sep (TASS)—There is weighty reason why the "new Soviet military glasnost"—that was how the world press described the actions of the Soviet Union in giving U.S. congressmen the opportunity to visit the Krasnoyarsk radar station—clearly was not to the liking of the Washington "hawks," said General Yuriy Lebedev, deputy chief of a directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union today in a conversation with a TASS diplomatic correspondent. The point is that the U.S. side is evidently simply not in a position to respond "reciprocally" to this "propaganda" step by the USSR. Lebedev further noted: If Soviet representatives were allowed to visit the U.S. radar station in Thule (Greenland), where a radar station for warning of an attack by strategic ballistic missiles is not just being built but has already been commissioned, (contrary to the ABM Treaty), Washington would never succeed in convincing the world public that this radar station is in accordance with the Soviet-U.S. agreement of 1972.

The U.S. congressmen who visited Krasnoyarsk stated that such an "unprecedented" gesture by the Soviet Union had enabled them to reach an unequivocal conclusion: The Reagan Administration's exaggerated claims about the Krasnoyarsk radar station, like those about the "violation" of the ABM Treaty, do not correspondent to the real state of affairs. Nevertheless, the other day State Department Spokesman Charles Redman stated that the administration would not change its stance on the Krasnoyarsk radar station: We do not possess, he said, the "necessary information" for that. General Lebedev emphasized that the true meaning behind such stubbornness on the part of the Washington administration is that the United States is attempting to belittle the significance of the step undertaken by the Soviet Union to reinforce trust between the two countries by repeating hackneyed conjectures about the radar station under construction in Krasnoyarsk.

Proof of the fact that the radar station in Thule (Greenland) is a violation of the ABM Treaty, can be found in the text of the ABM Treaty itself. Point B in Article 6 clearly and unambiguously describes an obligation on the sides not to deploy in the future radar stations for warning of an attack by strategic ballistic missiles except in locations along the periphery of their national territory, taking into account certain conditions. But are Greenland and Great Britain part of the United States' national territory?

Based on conjectures in relation to the USSR, the White House hopes to secure a propaganda cover and conditions for continuing work within the framework of the "Star Wars" program, aimed at the creation and placement various kinds of arms into space. This was also confirmed by a report, "The Alternative U.S. Strategic Defense Program," prepared recently by the American Union of Concerned Scientists. This research criticizes the efforts of the Reagan Administration to soon begin specific experiments in space within the framework of the SDI program. For example, the Pentagon has recently published a statement that said: The U.S. Secretary of Defense "has approved recommendations" for the "demonstration" of six technological developments which can be used in deploying the first stage of the ABM system with space-based elements.

It appears that certain U.S. circles, the Soviet expert stressed, regard space as their "national territory," and, through all sorts of "broad interpretations," regard the ABM Treaty as a loophole for implementing ominous plans for "Star Wars." But one should remember that the "new military openness" of the Soviet Union is an important factor that will protect the ABM Treaty from attempts to interpret it in a self-interested and dangerous way.

Star Wars Cited as Obstacle to Accord

LD211441 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1405 GMT 21 Sep 87

[By TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Sep (TASS)—Events of recent days have shown that there exist reliable, and more importantly, truly safe ways of turning nuclear weapons into weapons that are "impotent and obsolete". The achievement in Washington of an understanding in principle between the USSR and the United States on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles has shown once again that it is not "Star Wars," nor "power methods," in diplomacy, but mutually acceptable political solutions alone that can make our planet a safer place.

The talks on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles have laid down the optimum course toward a safe, nuclear-free world. Their success has naturally given rise in the world to new hopes for a solution to the problems of strategic and space armaments.

Unfortunately, it was not possible at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Washington to bring noticeably closer together the positions on the 50 percent reductions in strategic offensive systems. Primarily, the United States is continuing to hold an unconstructive position, refusing strict observance and strengthening of the treaty which limits antimissile defense systems.

With a sincere desire to attain mutually acceptable decisions on strategic and space weapons, the Soviet side has proposed the strict observance of the ABM Treaty, if only for 10 years, and in so doing to effect a sharp, 50 percent reduction in strategic weapons, and has put forward a number of other initiatives. Some officials in Washington have described the Soviet proposals as "encouraging". Yet President Reagan has stated that he has "no intention of sacrificing the SDI program".

What is the U.S. side seeking to achieve at the strategic and space weapons talks?

The United States insists on a fundamental change in the present situation in the sphere of arms control, fixed primarily by the 1972 Soviet-U.S. Treaty on limiting antimissile defense systems. Contrary to this agreement, Washington demands a completely free hand in the deployment of strike weapons in space, which, as studies by specialists show, could be used to attack earth-based targets of the other side in a first strike, and to "blind" the enemy by destroying warning and observation satellites.

The U.S. proposals do not have real disarmament as an aim but rather the mere transferring of major efforts in the arms race from one sphere to another still more dangerous one. Reducing strategic offensive weapons in the absence of a ban on building up unpredictable systems in space can only drastically destabilize the situation in the world and considerably increase the risk of a nuclear catastrophe as a result of defects in the organization and communications complex.

It is patently obvious that there is an organic link between reducing strategic offensive weapons and setting up barriers for the deployment of strike weapons in space, and strengthening the operation of the treaty to limit ABM systems, which has demonstrated its effectiveness.

At the present time, the U.S. "Star Wars" program is the main obstacle to the arms control process as a whole and of reducing strategic offensive weapons in particular.

Shishlin Notes CSSR, GDR Contributions

LD212031 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] The following interview is with Nikolay Shishlin, official of the CPSU Central Committee and a leading Soviet publicist. He was interviewed by Lubomir Sisak, our permanent Moscow correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Sisak] Nikolay Vladimirovic, how do you assess the significance of the agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States, achieved in Washington by the foreign ministers of the two countries, Eduard Shevardnadze and George Shultz?

[Shishlin, in Russian with superimposed Slovak translation] The medium-range and operational-tactical missiles are an important element, although not the main one, in the nuclear arsenals of the Soviet Union and the United States. The significance of the Soviet-U.S. agreement does not lie simply in the liquidation of these two classes of nuclear weapons but also in the possibilities that appear for limiting the number of strategic offensive nuclear missiles and conventional weapons, and for a ban on chemical weapons. This agreement has above all a political importance. It is a breakthrough for the future, the first practical step toward a nuclear-free world. The United States agreed not to change Pershing-2's to (?Pershing-1B's), not to site cruise missiles on warships and also to the Soviet demand for the liquidation of nuclear warheads.

[Sisak] Eduard Shevardnadze said at a press conference in Washington that the progress achieved was also due to cooperation with the CSSR and the GDR. Could you give a more detailed description of this?

[Shishlin] Above all is the fact that the Soviet Union formulated its approach to the medium-range and operational-tactical missiles on the basis of comprehensive and detailed consultations with the leadership of the CSSR and the GDR. That is the first thing. Second, both countries expressed a high degree of internationalism and responsibility at the time when they agreed to the siting of Soviet operational-tactical missiles after the U.S. sited the Pershing-2's on the territory of the FRG. With such understanding the Governments of the CSSR and the GDR adopted the bold ideas that appeared during the course of the Soviet-U.S. talks on these classes of nuclear weapons. [end recording]

NATO Secretary General Cited on Accord

LD211753 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1540 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] London 21 Sep (TASS)—In a conversation with journalists before his departure from the British capital for Washington, Lord Carrington, the NATO secretary general, assessed the Soviet-U.S. accord on the elimination of medium-range missiles and operational-tactical missiles as "a step forward" and stated that "the atmosphere now is quite clearly much better than it has been."

While voicing the opinion that an agreement to cut strategic weapons by 50 percent is "quite attainable," at the same time he asserted that during the talks on this form of weapon the issue of the U.S. "Star Wars" program should not be touched upon. The NATO leader likewise tried to assure the journalists that "there is a very great imbalance in conventional weapons between the Warsaw Pact and NATO," and called on NATO countries to be "vigilant and maintain their defense."

As the *Press Association* reports, in Washington Lord Carrington will take part in a briefing for the NATO countries on the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. talks that took place last week in the U.S. capital.

TASS Reports Reagan's UN Speech 21 Sep

LD211620 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1510 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] New York, 21 Sep (TASS)—TASS correspondent Sergey Baybakov and Vyacheslav Chernyshev report:

At the UN General Assembly today a speech was delivered by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who assessed the current state of U.S.-Soviet relations, stressing that the United States is "encouraged by the new prospects for improved East-West relations and especially U.S.-Soviet relations."

"I am satisfied that we have now reached agreement in principle on a truly historic treaty that will lead to liquidation of a whole class of U.S. and Soviet nuclear missiles. We have also agreed to step up our diplomatic efforts in other fields of mutual interest. For this reason, the secretary of state and the USSR foreign minister will meet again in Moscow in a month," Reagan said. I will meet General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev later in the autumn. "We," he pointed out, "continue to have disagreements that will evidently always continue. However, this imposes a special responsibility on us for finding ways—realistic ways—of stabilizing our rivalry and showing the world a constructive example of the value of communications and possibilities of peaceful solution of political problems."

Reagan promised that the United States would continue to try to achieve the goal of reducing armaments, especially the goal agreed to with the Soviet leader of a 50-percent reduction in both sides' strategic nuclear armaments.

At the same time, however, he stated once again that the United States does not intend to renounce the gamble on SDI, stressing that it is a "critically important part of U.S. efforts." He also made claims about "continuing to apply pressure" on the Soviet Union both on regional problems and on matters that are exclusively the internal affairs of the USSR. Reagan claimed that the United States is waiting for the time when those matters that are now a source of friction and even a threat will become an example of cooperation between the United States and the USSR. Along with this, however, the U.S. President stated "an interest" in the changes taking place in the USSR, and made his own interpretation of "glasnost," reducing it to a list of demands toward the Soviet Union without even hinting at any willingness for restructuring in thinking and policies from the U.S. side.

Those parts of the U.S. President's speech that dealt with the situations in Afghanistan, Central America, Cambodia, and southern Arrica were delivered in a tone reflecting confrontation and an ultimatum. He once again grossly distorted the situations in these regions and repeated the "arguments" of the policy of state terrorism and undeclared wars, which has been taken on by Washington in an attempt to suppress the people's movements for freedom, genuine independence, and social justice, and is directed at wrecking efforts to solve these problems through collective cooperation, talks, and dialogue. Reagan, in particular, once again demanded that the Nicaraguan Government capitulate on U.S. terms of "settlement," stressing that the United States will "continue to support" the contras. He repeated the U.S. demands concerning a settlement in Afghanistan and the withdrawal of the limited contingent of Soviet troops, although it is well known that this depends entirely on an end to interference in the DRA's affairs by the United States primarily and an end to obstacles to a settlement around Afghanistan under UN auspices.

Even when touching on the Persian Gulf situation, which has literally reached the boiling point as a result of the presence of a U.S. armada unprecedented in might, the U.S. President tried to lay the responsibility for the explosive situation on others. Defending their exceedingly dangerous escalation of the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region strikingly has countered their proclaimed desire to achieve a just end to the Iraq-Iran war." [no opening quotemark as received]

A substantial part of Reagan's speech was devoted to singing the praises of the "free market," "entrepreneurial energy," and other "charms" of the capitalist model of development, whose practices the United States has been trying increasingly and vigorously to foist on the whole international community recently. Along with this, the President not only claimed peremptorily that "the free market is the only genuine path of development," but also argued that "development in itself is not a right." The representatives of the international community who had gathered at the United Nations greeted this passage in the President's speech with indignation, regarding it as an attempt to deny to sovereign countries and peoples their inalienable right—the right to choose their own path of development.

Shevardnadze Holds UN Meetings

LD220604 Moscow TASS in English 0555 GMT 22 Sep 87

["Soviet Foreign Minister's Meetings in New York"—TASS headline]

[Text] New York September 22 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, paid a visit to the president of the 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly, Peter Florin, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the German Democratic Republic, on Monday.

Upon congratulating Peter Florin on his being elected the president of the U.N. General Assembly's session, Eduard Shevardnadze expressed confidence that the session's work would become an important stage in the cause of setting up a large-scale international dialogue on the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security the basic principles of which received further development in Mikhail Gorbachev's article headlined "Reality and Guarantees for a Secure World."

Eduard Shevardnadze has had a meeting with Thorvald Stoltenberg, Norwegian minister of foreign affairs.

It was pointed out that the agreement in principle reached between the Soviet Union and the United States on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles was justly viewed by the international community as a historic one inspiring hope for a fundamental change in the cause of disarmament.

The two foreign minister reaffirmed the striving of the two sides for further development of Soviet-Norwegian high-level political dialogue and of bilateral cooperation in various fields.

Th minister of foreign affairs of the USSR has met with his Portuguese counterpart, Joao de Deus Pinheiro [name and position as received]. The sides discussed a number of practical matters aimed at developing Soviet-Portuguese relations, and pointed out a special importance of giving greater scope to the political dialogue between the two countries.

Some matters concerning Soviet-Indonesian relations as well as the agenda of the 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly from the viewpoint of effective using the international forum for building a secure world free from nuclear weapons were considered during Eduard Shevardnadze's friendly conversation with Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Indonesian minister of foreign affairs.

The Indonesian minister highly appreciated the importnace of Mikhail Gorbachev's article attributed to *Pravda* newspaper, pointing out that the world should be grateful to the general secretary for the boldness to take upon himself the task of looking into the future and determining ways leading to a nuclear-free world.

The sides pointed out a great importance of the initiatives, put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev in his answers to the questions put by the Indonesian *Merdeka* newspaper, for improving the political climate in the Asian-Pacific region and for establishing an atmosphere of trust and goodneighbourly relations there.

Common understanding of the need to solve the outstanding problems in Southeast Asia, including Kampuchea, through peaceful political means was reaffirmed. The Soviet side took note of Indonesia's positive role in a search for ways of Kampuchean settlement.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met with Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs Charles Joseph Clark. In accordance with the Soviet-Canadian protocol on consultations, a thorough exchange of opinions on some key international issues was held. Special attention was paid to the need for effective cooperation of all countries in strengthening common security on the basis of new political thinking in international affairs, which meets the realities of nuclear space age.

The sides expressed striving towards further extending multifaceted cooperation between the two neighbouring countries on a mutually beneficial basis.

Having thanked for the information concerning the results of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Washington, Joseph Clark highly assessed the agreement in principle between the USSR and the USA on eliminating a whole class of nuclear weapons and expressed the hope that it would provide an additional impetus for talks on the entire range of disarmament problems, including reduction of conventional weapons in Europe and a switch-over to the policy of trust in all fields of international relations. The sides spoke out in favour of intensifying work at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament with a view to concluding the convention on banning chemical weapons, in the nearest future.

'International Review' on Shevardnadze, Gulf

PM211332 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 87 Second Edition p 4

[Boris Orekhov "International Review": capitalized words as published]

[Excerpt]"The Soviet Government must IMMEDIATELY propose to ALL warring peoples (that is, simultaneously to their governments and to the workers' and peasants' masses) the conclusion of a general peace on democratic terms now...

"The main condition of a democratic peace is the renunciation of annexation (occupation)—not in the incorrect sense of all states recovering what they have lost, but in the only correct sense, that EVERY people, without exception, both in Europe and in the colonies, receives freedom and the opportunity to decide for itself whether it will form a SEPARATE state or become part of any other state."

That is what V.I. Lenin wrote 70 years ago in the article "Tasks of the Revolution," published in the newspaper *Rabochiy Put*. It was September 1917, and only weeks separated mankind from the historic shot fired by the *Aurora*.

Yes, the heated battle for power was only then drawing near, and the Bolsheviks had already proclaimed as one of the objectives of their policy the establishment of world peace and the peoples' right to self-determination. The entire path traveled by our country and our party since that day has been a story of tireless, consistent struggle for the implementation of Lenin's peace-loving course. So it was yesterday, and so it is today, now that the Soviet land, with a persistence and consistency which arouse the respect and admiration of its friends and all the champions of peace, seeks and uses every opportunity to ensure a peaceful future for mankind.

There was the widest possible response throughout the globe for the article by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, published in *Pravda* this week, "Reality and Guarantees of a Secure World," which contains a profound analysis of the international situation and proposes a number of important foreign policy initiatives. The 27th CPSU Congress put forward the idea of a comprehensive system of international security, and this has won the support of many states. The article by the general secretary of the

CPSU Central Committee speaks of our approach to the formation of such a system and proposes concrete measures for setting it up. The idea of a comprehensive security system is the initial design for a positive new structure of life in our shared planetary home, it is a pass to the future, where security for all is the guarantee of security for each.

Our foreign minister's overseas visit continues. The visit was awaited, preparations had been made. Many foreign policy commentators tried to predict its possible results, although it is well known that in politics, guesses and predictions are usually unrewarding. But here it seemed that reality itself prompted them.

The point is that at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, which have been under way for many a day now, the sides have recently come virtually to the point of completing the preparation of a treaty on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles, as a result of which two classes of nuclear missile arms would be destroyed forever, for the first time in history.

Many foreign policy observers have in recent days spoken with heightened optimism of the prospects for concluding a Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium-range missiles. This optimistic tone was also prompted, finally, by the position defined by the FRG Government with regard to the elimination of the 72 West German Pershing-1A missiles.

Moreover, the Soviet foreign minister's visit to Washington began in a major key—on 15 September he and the U.S. secretary of state signed a Soviet-U.S. agreement on the creation of centers for reducing the nuclear danger. Naturally, this event was generally interpreted as a good sign, a tangible step toward the practical implementation of the Geneva accords between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan, a step leading toward the creation of an atmosphere of confidence between our two countries, the shortage of which has been obvious recently.

It was not our fault that this shortage arose. Our leadership's numerous initiatives in recent months and years with the aim of breaking the ice in Soviet-U.S. relations, normalizing the international atmosphere, and taking real, concrete steps to meet each other are widely known and have met with approval in the world. In response, from across the ocean we have heard only vague, totally noncommittal calls for an improvement in relations and disarmament.

That is why the Soviet foreign minister's present trip and his talks with representatives of the highest echelons of power in the United States have generated such great interest in the world. That is why such marked attention everywhere was immediately focused on the agreement signed in the U.S. capital on the setting up of centers to lessen the nuclear danger.

A few words about the agreement itself. It deals with the creation of a new machinery for the prompt transmission of notification—on the basis of existing Soviet-U.S. agreements—on military activity which could be incorrectly interpreted by the other side, which in turn could be the cause of an intensification of the nuclear threat.

The successful completion of work to prepare this agreement, which our diplomats, with their colleagues across the ocean, have been engaged in for 2 years, has shown that given goodwill on both sides, accords which are useful to the cause of peace are entirely possible, despite the complexities and obstacles on the way which at times seem insuperable.

But this news, received last week from the U.S. capital, was not the only piece of news and, more importantly, not the main one. The main result of the Soviet foreign minister's 3 days of intensive talks in Washington was that as a result the majority of differences and obstacles to the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. agreement on the elimination of medium-range and operational-tactical missiles were removed.

For the first time in the history of the existence of nuclear weapons, or more precisely in the history of the nuclear confrontation between the USSR and the United States, it has been possible to reach agreement on the elimination of two classes of nuclear missiles. An accord in principle has been reached on the conclusion of a corresponding treaty, and the necessary instructions to this effect have been given to the two sides' delegations in Geneva.

After also discussing questions connected with the problem of nuclear tests, the USSR foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state agreed to begin full-scale stage-by-stage talks on 1 December this year.

The good news from Washington has prompted a wide response in the world. At the United Nations an official statement was issued in which the UN secretary general cordially welcomes the agreement to the effect that the USSR and the United States have reached an accord in principle on concluding a treaty providing for the elimination of their medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles. The British foreign secretary stated that the signing of such an agreement will be a "major, tremendous achievement." The FRG Federal chancellor expressed profound satisfaction in connection with this success and the hope that it would clear the way for further steps in the disarmament and arms control sphere. The news from Washington was greeted with approval by the governments of Italy, Finland, Belgium, Spain, Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, Afghanistan, Japan, and many other countries.

It has been agreed in Washington to hold a meeting this fall between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan. Let us hope that this meeting is the starting point for major new steps toward the total elimination of the threat that hangs over mankind.

Who would have thought, a year or two ago, that the untroubled, gentle waters of the Persian Gulf, emerald when seen from an aircraft porthole, could harbor within them the danger of an international conflict fraught with unpredictable consequences not only for the Arabs and Persians living around, but for the whole world community!

The philosophical law whereby quantity becomes quality threatens to find dangerous confirmation in these waters, this time in a military-political context. The number of warships sent by the NATO countries' governments to this sea area on the pretext of protecting oil tankers and ensuring freedom of navigation continues to increase threateningly. Eight ships under the Italian Navy flag are hastening to the Gulf from Italian ports.

In Belgium, which has never been famed as a great naval power, interests have suddenly been discovered in the Persian Gulf: It has been announced that two Belgian Navy minesweepers are now setting course there to enter into "close collaboration" with British and Dutch naval forces in the Gulf. And the U.S. Navy today has more than 40 vessels in the Persian Gulf.

What kind of picture is emerging? The conflict situation in the Gulf is being exploited by the North Atlantic bloc as a pretext for concentrating its naval forces and holding joint operations there. The Persian Gulf is becoming a range for a kind of NATO naval exercise in conditions as close as possible to combat conditions.

An incident that occurred the other day indicates what fatal consequences the continuing concentration of U.S. and NATO military forces in this region could lead to. Two warships—a British and an Iranian—met in the Strait of Hormuz. Approaching the "Englishman," the Iranian frigate started training its deck guns on it. A further risky turn of events was prevented only by talks between the ships' commanders. Fortunately communications were working satisfactorily. But what if communications had broken down? Or had not been resorted to at all?

In a word, there are many questions, but only one unequivocal answer suggests itself: The flames of the Persian Gulf conflict must be extinguished before they grow into a great conflagration.

Unfortunately, the attempts being undertaken in this direction have yet to yield any evident success. Great hopes were pinned on the visit to the Gulf region by UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar, undertaken with a view to promoting an end to the Iran-Iraq war. The continuation of this war is being used by the NATO countries, first and foremost the United States, to step up their military might in the Near East. The UN secretary general visited Tehran and Baghdad, where he had talks with the Iranian and Iraqi leaders. The actual fruits of the talks are as yet unknown. J. Perez de Cuellar reported on them to the UN Security Council, which is to assess the prevailing situation.

Foreign news agencies, however, note the intractability of the Iranian side in the course of these talks and its demand that Iraq be publicly acknowledged the aggressor in the Iran-Iraq conflict. At the same time the Iraqi foreign minister, after the UN secretary general's departure from Baghdad, stressed that his country welcomes UN Security Council Resolution 598, and reaffirmed the readiness to fulfill it and to cooperate sincerely with the UN secretary general and the Security Council.

As is well known, Resolution 598 contains a call for an end to hostilities between Iran and Iraq. The Soviet Union resolutely supports its fulfillment, believing that it offers a real political basis for a settlement of the conflict. The Soviet Union proceeds on the basis of the need to renounce actions which create a threat to security and freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf region, both actions taken directly and those arising from the buildup of the military presence of nonlittoral states there, on the pretext of ensuring freedom of navigation. The NATO minesweepers, by trawling the waters of the Gulf, could at best find a few mines and render them harmless. A radical solution to the problem can only be found at the conference table. [passage omitted]

'International Review' on U.S. Contacts

PM141431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Sep 87 Second Edition p 4

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "International Review"]

[Text]After a comparative lull in August, foreign policy activity traditionally gets back to full steam in September. The next session of the UN General Assembly opens, as always, on the third Tuesday of the month. The Soviet Union is going to that universal forum of the world community with a considerable array of new ideas and approaches and is striving to place the formation of a comprehensive international security system on a practical footing.

This time the opening of the UN General Assembly coincides with another important event. Three-day talks between Soviet Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz are scheduled to start in Washington 15 September. It has been officially announced that the Soviet guest will be received by the President. A very great deal depends on the results of the forthcoming exchange of opinions. Things that have been the subject of heated debates for many months must be crystallized. Will there be a Soviet-U.S. summit this year? Will the Geneva talks result in an agreement to eliminate two classes of nuclear missiles? Does the United States really want arms reductions? Is it prepared to unequivocally accept a global double zero, and is it interested in genuinely reliable verification? These questions are being asked by millions of people.

The other day at the initiative of the State Department, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz gave an interview to a group of journalists from the socialist countries. He was asked what would happen to the U.S. warheads for the West German Pershing-1A missiles if they were decommissioned, as FRG Chancellor Kohl has hinted. Is the U.S. Government prepared to guarantee that the warheads would be destroyed? Or might they be withdrawn from Europe only to be returned at any moment?

Shultz avoided giving a straight answer to this specific question. Instead he launched into vague and not very logical arguments claiming that the main thing is to eliminate the missiles, since, as he put it, without delivery means "warheads will not be as important as before," they will cease to be functional, and "in general they are small and it is very hard to check how many of these warheads there are and how many new ones might be created..." It is clear from what the secretary of state said that for some reason the United States is interested in retaining these charges (perhaps in order to leave a loophole for supplying nuclear arms to the Bundeswehr?) But a global double zero can only mean one thing: the complete elimination of two classes of nuclear arms—that is, launchers, missiles, and warheads—and the abandonment of their production. Otherwise it will not be zero. And clearly it was no accident that in his interview the secretary of state tried to "put the ball into his partner's court" and create the unfounded impression that it is the USSR rather than the United States, which is erecting obstacles to agreement.

In the mid-fifties, 11 world famous scientists—Albert Einstein, Frederic Joliot-Curie, Bertrand Russell, and others—appealed to mankind's best minds to end the use of atomic power for military purposes. Thus, 1957 saw the birth of the Pugwash movement, which this week celebrated its 30th anniversary in the Austrian city of Gmunden. The more than 200 scientists and public figures from the 50 states assembled at the 37th Pugwash Conference were authoritative mirrors of the world public's feelings. In their declaration they note with satisfaction that the appeal by the founders of the Pugwash movement for "new thinking" is meeting with an ever wider response in international life. New thinking is seen in the realization that nuclear weapons have made war senseless.

In their closing document the Gmunden conference participants welcome the possibility of a Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles—an agreement that would be not only the first instance of the elimination of a section of accumulated arsenals but would also pave the way for further and more considerable nuclear arms reductions.

The feelings that prevailed at the Gmunden conference reflect the views of broad sections of the public, particularly in Europe, which has been the site of two world wars and is now the most dangerous arena of East-West military confrontation. This is attested by the extensive and, on the whole, favorable response triggered by the positive results of GDR leader E. Honecker's first-ever official visit to the FRG. The formula of the joint communique, which enshrined the fact that war would never again start from German soil and that GDR-FRG relations should be a stabilizing factor in constructive East-West relations, generated a particularly animated response.

The participants in the talks stressed that the universal elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles would substantially improve stability and security in Europe and Asia. They advocated the speediest achievement of an agreement to end nuclear tests within the framework of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, and reaffirmed their resolve to promote success at the Vienna talks on mutual reductions in armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

Disarmament for Development [subhead]

An international conference on the relationship between disarmament and development ended in New York this week. Representatives of more than 140 UN states took part. Their work made a substantial contribution to the internationalization of the efforts to turn disarmament into a factor of development.

The idea of discussing this problem at a representative forum was floated by the late Indira Gandhi. Accepting the post of chairman of the Nonaligned Movement from Fidel Castro, she stated in Delhi: "Independence and development cannot be separated from disarmament and peace." These words, which embody the organic link between the fundamental aims of the nonaligned movement and the urgent problems of the day and represent the inseparability of the struggle against the political and economic consequences of colonialism and the struggle to prevent nuclear war, were the theme of the nonaligned conferences in Delhi and Harare.

"The choice today is not between war and peace but between life and death," the Harare appeal adopted exactly 1 year ago stated. "This makes the struggle for peace and the prevention of nuclear war the main task of our time."

Total military spending in the world is nearing $1 trillion—that is, $1,000 billion—a year. As Robert Mugabe, current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, put it, just one-fifth of this expenditure would be enough to put a complete stop to hunger on our planet by the end of the century. The participants in the recent Pugwash conference cited staggering figures: Every minute the arms race consumes almost $2 million, while in the same minute 30 people die in the world from malnutrition or disease.

To understand this figure, let us imagine that the Hiroshima and Nagasaki tragedies, during which over 300,000 people were killed, were being repeated month in month out, year in year out. And then let us remember that the funds that could save these people from starvation are being used to accumulate nuclear arsenals with the destructive power of a million potential Hiroshimas.

That is the tragic paradox of our time. Neocolonialism annually pumps $250 billion—a sum close to the U.S. military budget—out of the developing countries. And that proximity is no accident. In subjecting the "Third World" to neocolonial plunder the West is essentially forcing it to pay for the imperialist powers' military spending.

The indissoluble link between the right to life and the right to development is felt more acutely than ever nowadays. For instance, back in 1974 at the initiative of the USSR the UN General Assembly called on the permanent members of the Security Council to cut their military budgets by 10 percent. The implementation of this proposal would have made it possible to save $70 billion. And by the end of the century these funds could have halted the advance of the deserts, which have already consumed 5 billion hectares of land—a hectare for every inhabitant of the planet. As for the Soviet program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, its implementation, specialists calculate, would save the United States $1 trillion and West Europe $300 billion.

At the New York conference the Soviet delegation forwarded specific proposals: to create an international "Disarmament For Development" Fund that would be a mechanism for transferring to needy countries the funds saved through disarmament; and to devote a special meeting of the top leaders of the UN Security Council states to this problem. Advocating the creation of a free and stable trade system that would safeguard the economic security of all states, the Soviet Union announced its agreement to participate in a common fund for raw material goods, as the nonaligned countries had desired.

The concept of a comprehensive international security system advocated by the USSR and the other socialist countries organically subsumes the principle of development through disarmament. Yet mankind can only solve this task jointly, through the efforts of the entire international community.

The internationalization of dialogue and other forms of cooperation between states has become a sign of the times. The position of the United States, its increasing tendency to boycott the collective quest for solutions to global tasks, and its lack of interest in international efforts altogether is in stark contrast. Washington's refusal to participate in the International Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development is just one of the many manifestations of this tendency. The United States has left UNESCO and is threatening to leave the IAEA. It wrecked the fruitful conclusion of the conference on humanitarian cooperation in Bern and is blocking the creation of an international space organization.

Reconciliation Rather Than Bloodshed [subhead]

The latest round of Afghan-Pakistani talks, conducted via the UN secretary general's personal representative, was held in Geneva this week. Kabul and Islamabad have been conducting this indirect dialogue for 5 years now. In the words of the mediator at the talks—UN Assistant Secretary General Diego Cordovez—during the present round both sides made concessions that brought their positions even closer together, but they were unable to wholly bridge the gap between them.

As a result of these Geneva contacts, many important elements in a comprehensive agreement on the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan have basically been agreed: the conditions of the ending and guaranteed nonresumption of outside interference in the country's internal affairs; the procedure for the return of refugees to their native land; and the nature of the international guarantees from the USSR and the United States vouching that the sides will observe the agreements reached. Final agreement still remains to be reached on the monitoring mechanism, and the main thing is to reach agreement on the timetable for the return home of Soviet troops after the agreement is signed.

This time the Afghan side expressed readiness to reduce this period to 16 months, whereas the Pakistani side is insisting on 8 months (at the previous round in March, 18 and 7 months were demanded respectively). There have been proposals in the press that a 12-month period could be a mutually acceptable compromise. However, no agreement has yet been reached on this score.

An oriental proverb says: "You can't clap with one hand." Having proclaimed the policy of national reconciliation, Kabul is again and again showing its readiness for compromise. Therefore, it is justified in counting on similar manifestations of flexibility and steps in response from the other side. The DRA and Soviet Governments have repeatedly stated in public that under the terms of their agreement Soviet troops will return home on as tight a schedule as possible as soon as imperialist outside interference stops. So far, the scale and nature of that interference has been pointedly expanding. Shipments to the dushmans of the latest combat equipment—including U.S. Stinger and British Blowpipe antiaircraft missiles—have been stepped up. There have been more and more cases of the bandits using these weapons to down passenger-carrying civil aircraft, condemning women and children to death.

Nonetheless, the national reconciliation policy has posted its first successes. More than 30,000 erstwhile armed opponents have come over to the side of the people's power. Over 80,000 refugees have returned this year alone. The government's unilateral cease-fire decision has been extended for another 6 months. The new Afghan draft constitution has been submitted for nationwide discussion. A general amnesty has been implemented. The creation of a multiparty system in the country has been announced. Coalition administrative organs are being set up at all levels. In 14 districts and 4 provinces these are headed by representatives of opposition groups.

The PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] has stated its readiness not only to conduct a political dialogue with all opposition forces both within the country and abroad but to share real power with its national reconciliation partners and grant them important state posts up to the level of chairman of the Council of Ministers and vice president of the republic. In the PDPA's opinion, objective conditions exist in the country for creating a coalition of all democratic and patriotic forces advocating an end to the fratricidal war and a peaceful, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan. It will become clearer and clearer to the international public that only belligerent U.S. imperialist circles have an interest in maintaining this open wound of regional conflict.

Given the political will, the fires of conflict in west Asia could be extinguished. This would be in line with the national interests not only of the Afghans but of their neighbors in Pakistan and Iran, and with the interests of peace, security, and goodneighborliness in the region.

'Top Priority' on Arms Negotiations

LD051340 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 4 Sep 87

["Top Priority" program presented by Pavel Kuznetsov with Dr Sergey Plekhanov and Dr Andrey (Kortunov) of the "USA and Canada Studies Institute"]

[Text] [Kuznetsov] How do you do, ladies and gentlemen? I'm Pavel Kuznetsov, presenting Top Priority. The regular host of this program, Vladimir Pozner, is just back from a public dialogue in Chautauqua, held in upper New York, and he will be back with you as of next week. In the meantime I'd like to apologize for speaking a little bit through my nose, which is the result of a reckless decision to spend my brief vacation not far from Moscow in this ungodly weather.

[Plekhanov] We really haven't had the summer this year.

[Kuznetsov] That's true. Anyway, in the studio with me are Dr Sergey Plekhanov and a new face, or rather a new voice, Andrey (Kortunov), both from Moscow's USA and Canada Studies Institute. I suggest that we take a look at the latest developments, at the recent events in Soviet-American relations and in particular in arms control.

I understand that things are in a flux, the situation is changing all the time, but nevertheless I would like to know: What is your reading of the current situation in this field? Who'd like to start the ball rolling?

[Plekhanov] Well, let me say a few words.

[Kuznetsov] Dr Plekhanov, yes, please.

[Plekhanov] I think that in the past few weeks we've seen some significant progress toward the agreement. As our listeners know, of course, one of the biggest hitches, the biggest hitch on the road to the agreement was the question of the American nuclear warheads to the 72 Pershing-1A missiles. You see, there was a very difficult situation concerning those missiles, because it was in many respects like a shell game. The Americans kept saying, no, we can't really talk about those missiles because they are under the control of the West Germans. And we objected to that because, true, the missiles are under the control of the West Germans but the nuclear warheads are American-held. And those missiles are-...[Plekhanov changes thought] you know, the warheads, by the way, are much bigger than those on the Pershing-2. And of course, since we are talking about a double zero, not only medium range missiles but also shorter range missiles, we have to take those 72 missiles into consideration.

[Kuznetsov] As far as I understand, we are not against West Germany holding or having those Pershing-1A's, we are against American warheads.

[Plekhanov] But the game was — well, you know, it's up to the West Germans — and that's what the Americans kept telling us. And when the ball was in their court the West German Government...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] Chancellor Kohl, yes.

[Plekhanov] Chancellor Kohl. They discussed it back and forth and the force of the public opinion in West Germany was so strong in favor of the elimination of those warheads, of finding some sort of a compromise, that the West German Government had to take the position that, well, if certain conditions are met then the West Germans would not modernize those weapons and would, perhaps, would agree to give them up after a while.

[Kuznetsov] But as far as I understand this may take a long time to happen. They are slated for destruction, for being phased out, in the early nineties, that is 4 years from now.

[Plekhanov] Four or five years.

[(Kortunov)]Yes, and the problem is that they have other programs of modernization of their missile arsenal that can be just activated in this particular period. That is why there can be new missiles that will substitute these particular missiles, that's the problem.

[Kuznetsov] What was the American reaction to the statement of Chancellor Kohl?

[Plekhanov] Basically, as I read the American official reaction, it was just endorsing what the Kohl government said and not adding anything constructive on their own. I don't think there has been any significant progress.

[(Kortunov)] And may I interrupt you for a moment?

[Kuznetsov] Yes, Dr (Kortunov), please.

[(Kortunov)] I think that for American Administration, or at least for some people in this administration, the response of West Germany was a little bit unexpected. And it might be that they want to just lay responsibility on the shoulders of Chancellor Kohl and expected some little bit tougher response from his side. And that is why this kind of response, which I think was really a constructive one, in general, was a little bit of surprise to the administration. It was really unprepared.

[Kuznetsov] West Germany says that they will do something about their Pershing-1A missiles if the Soviet Union and the United States sign an accord and the American side says that if West Germany makes good on its offer then the United States is going to look into the matter of its own nuclear warheads for those missiles. I mean, there are so many if's. It's a very iffy situation and I think it requires a good deal more clarity from both Bonn and Washington on where they stand on this very important issue. Otherwise, what may happen is what we see is happening now to the 1972 ABM Treaty, and I'm alluding to this broad interpretation.

[Plekhanov] If you sign a treaty, you want to be sure that the treaty would be implemented and that there would be no loopholes. In fact, as far as the 1972 ABM Treaty is concerned, it was constructed in such a manner that no misinterpretation, or the possibility of misinterpretation would be reduced to a minimum. Of course, nobody would expect that an administration would come to Washington which would just play havoc with the treaty and which would simply, you know, take a new interpretation itself and thus undermine the treaty. What do you think?

[(Kortunov)] Well, I think that, being a lawyer, I can say that you cannot construct a treaty that will leave no place for loopholes. That is why the spirit is very important and the idea, the desire, the sincerity of the desire just to adhere to the treaty is very important because if you want just to violate, or at least somehow to, well, find some loophole in a treaty, you will always do it.

[Kuznetsov] And in this connection I would like to set an example involving Senator Nunn, who is, as far as I understand, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and he said that his committee would like to have a full record of all negotiations with the Soviet Union on medium- and shorter-range missiles. And the options are either the White House drops its insistence on a broad interpretation of the 1972 ABM treaty or the Senate is going to study all those records for a long time, which is time consuming, of course, and this might delay the ratification of that INF accord. Now, what do you think about this position of Senator Nunn? Is he throwing monkey wrenches in the work [as heard] or perhaps his position has some...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] Well, you know, it's an unexpected move and I'm of two minds about it. On the one hand, I endorse, of course, any idea that the broad interpretation must be scrapped and that the original interpretation must be adhered to. On the one hand, you know, tying it up with the fate of the INF agreement is a little strange because, okay, what if the U.S. Government says okay, we open all the records of the negotiations on INF? Does it mean that they are scotfree on the ABM issue? Does it mean that then Senator Nunn is prepared to go ahead to the broad interpretation?

[Kuznetsov] My question to you, Andrey, in this connection, you as a lawyer. Don't you see some logic behind what Senator Nunn is saying now? Because, well, his position is very clear to me at least. The Senate was fooled...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] Yeah, well, that's true. In connection with the ABM Treaty. One administration signed it and several years later another American Administration wants to destroy it and he doesn't want the Senate to be in this stupid — to land up in this stupid — situation again with respect to this INF accord.

[(Kortunov)] Well, I think that the desire is really very clear and the senator wants clarity and perhaps the records can show the intentions of the sides, their original, their desires, better than the final, just, the final provisions of the treaty itself. And that is why I think that there is some logic in this approach.

[Kuznetsov] Much of the confusion that surrounds the situation on INF these days stems from the fact that there's got to be a big push from high above to finalize the terms of that agreement (? somewhat) and in this respect I'd like to ask you, do you pin any hopes on the meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Secretary of State George Shultz, which is scheduled to take place on the eve of the opening of the United Nations General Assembly?

[(Kortunov)] Well, my personal opinion is that it is one of the last chances to get the things really moving because we are now witnessing the approaching campaign, and certainly it will be more and more difficult...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] You mean the election campaign?

[(Kortunov)] Election campaign in the United States and it will be more and more difficult just to have some deal. And from this point, I think that nowadays, perhaps, the situation is most favorable for a treaty because if the administration really wants to strike a deal it can do it now because now, I think, all the obstacles are already lifted, and I think that this meeting can be, well, one of the final tests for this administration.

[Kuznetsov] Another question: I'd like you, Dr Plekhanov, to take up the issue of verification, which has been, as you are perfectly aware, a major stumbling block in all Soviet-American negotiations. What is the situation now in this verification area?

[Plekhanov] Well, the situation is rather, rather strange.

[Kuznetsov] Strange?

[Plekhanov] Because for years the American side insisted on the idea that the verification must be as strict and as intrusive as possible. And obviously there was some common sense in that position, in fact a lot of common sense, that if you sign a treaty you want to be sure that you are able to verify adherence to it. Now, the Soviet Union has always considered this issue important and our position evolved toward a more and more strict and intrusive approach toward verification. [Kuznetsov] We used to baulk at some of the American ideas in the past. [Plekhanov] Yes, yes, but our position has evolved and finally we put on the table in Geneva a verification package, which would involve some very intrusive, I would say, means of verification.

[Kuznetsov] Some people say it was even more comprehensive than the American proposal.

[Plekhanov] Yes, because really we suggested that both sides should have the ability to visit those facilities where the missiles can be stored, where they can be deployed, and if there is any doubt as to what particular activity constitutes, as far as the treaty is concerned, then the other side must have absolutely free access to the place...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] That's what is known — goes by the name of challenge inspections without the right of refusal.

[Plekhanov] That's right, that's right.

[Kuznetsov] Done on very short notice.

[Plekhanov] On a very short notice, that you just put yourself on a plane and go right there and nobody can stop you. And so we said okay, let's have that. And all of a sudden from the American side they say no, wait a minute, because the various agencies in the U.S. Government, the CIA, the FBI, the Pentagon...

[Unidentified speaker] Revolted against this.

[Plekhanov] They said no, no, we can't let the Russian look at those things because, you know, they are secret, they are top secret, and this is kind of strange. I think the State Department finds itself in a rather difficult position, because they are being undercut by their own people.

[Kuznetsov] I do agree with what you have just said, Dr Plekhanov, about verification being a vital tool in promoting trust. There was actually a Soviet-American, a joint Soviet-American experiment in Kazakhstan and I'd like you, Dr (Kortunov), to say a few words about it. How do you see it and what is this experiment about?

[(Kurtunov)] I think it was really important at least for two reasons — you mean this experiment in Kazakhstan when they...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] Exploding nonnuclear charges and then measuring them with some gauging equipment, seismographs, seismographic equipment set up hundreds of miles from that place...

[(Kortunov), interrupting] I think it was really important, first of all because it proved once again the possibility just to measure the exact size of explosion, which was an issue of a certain controversy for some time, especially in the United States. And the second, it showed the ability to cooperate and, well, to conduct these mutual experiments by Soviet and American scientists. And I think that such experiments can lead to more trust, to more understanding and it set a model that can be used if we reach some progress in the broader issues of arms control and arms reductions.

[Kuznetsov] Dr Plekhanov, I understand that there was a group of American scientists and even three congressmen in Kazakhstan monitoring those experiments with nonnuclear charges. Why cannot our scientists and members of the Supreme Soviet visit Nevada and do the same thing as...

[Plekhanov] Because the U.S. Government put a...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] As far as I understand they have not gained access to those American facilities yet.

[Plekhanov] No, because the American Government's position is that Soviet scientists can only come to Nevada to listen to a nuclear test and to see how the American...

[Kuznetsov] Not to conduct any experiments.

[Plekhanov] Not to conduct experiments and not to verify the absence of explosions. There is an asymmetry between the two positions because our scientists involved in this joint project are convinced that they should not endorse the idea of measuring nuclear devices because they are against all nuclear tests, they are working for a comprehensive test ban.

[(Kortunov)] I think that the congressmen were especially interested in this experiment in Kazakhstan because they want to limit the yields of the tests to 1 kilotonne. And certainly it is very important to be sure that even these relatively small nuclear explosions can be, well, just, can be checked and their exact yield can be verified with an accuracy. And I think that they were optimistic about the possibility.

[Plekhanov] Yes. I saw on Soviet television, I saw an interview with Congressman Downey, one of the three — they were also Congressman Carr and Congressman Moody — and Downey was very positive. He said this test was very useful for the discussions on the limitation of nuclear tests, the discussions that are going on in the U.S. Congress.

[Kuznetsov] Our time is up. I'm Pavel Kuznetsov, signing off. You've been tuned to Top Priority and with me in the studio were Drs Sergey Plekhanov and Andrey (Kortunov) of Moscow's USA and Canada Studies Institute. Goodbye till next week at the same time and on the same wavelength.

'Experts' Meet on World Security

LD071914 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS — A round-table meeting of experts on international affairs, lawyers, philosophers, historians, linguists, economists and ecologists was held at the Soviet Foreign Ministry today.

The participants discussed questions of broadening the dialogue on the problem of establishing a comprehensive system of international peace and security.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy, addressing the meeting, stressed that the concept of comprehensive international security, advanced at the 27th CPSU Congress, was creative development and application of Lenin's idea of a fair democratic peace with regards to the nuclear and space age.

That concept was justly assessed throughout the world as a manifestation of the new mode of political thinking that should be reflected in purposeful actions by states and acts of sensible will by their political leadership.

The meeting's participants exchanged views. They spoke about the significance of the initiative of establishing a comprehensive system of world peace and security, about the need for specific measures to form material, legal and psychological guarantees of peace and security for all states and peoples.

They spoke of the need for renouncing the stereotypes of thinking in terms of enemy image, overcoming confrontational approaches, developing democracy and openness and asserting standards of civilized behaviour in international affairs.

USSR, UK Observers on East-West Military Doctrine

PM111345[Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 September 1987 Second Edition carries on page 4 under the rubric "Different Stances" two articles on military doctrine. In the first, a 1,300-word article headlined "Setting A Good Example," Jonathan Steele, diplomatic observer of Britain's *The Guardian*, views the Warsaw Pact's military doctrine. He sees the foundation of the doctrine on the basis of equality and its assumption of a series of steps on the part of both sides as "weak spots," stating that "despite its commitment to 'no-first-use' of nuclear weapons, the Warsaw Pact is similar to NATO in its methods of training, deploying, and mobilizing its forces on the basis of a combined conventional and nuclear strategy." Noting the increased Soviet emphasis on "reasonable sufficiency," he suggests that a "reduction in tank numbers would be of considerable value as a political signal" since tanks are inherently more destabilizing than antitank weapons, and he concludes that an "unambiguously nonoffensive" redeployment of Soviet conventional forces coupled with the "withdrawal of a large number of tanks from the central front" would increase overall security.

The article is accompanied by the following article by Candidate of Economic Sciences I. Zelin, under the headline "Reciprocity Is Needed":

"Jonathan Steele's is symptomatic of many attitudes. First and foremost it reflects the positive response in the Western countries' public awareness and among those sincerely concerned about the problems of peace, security, and disarmament to the peace initiatives of the USSR and the proposal it put forward along with its allies to compare the military doctrines of the two military-political alliances.

"It is no accident that the article also voices concern about the fate of this proposal. Indeed, in recent years Soviet proposals in the disarmament sphere more often than not have failed to meet with a constructive response from our negotiation partners. Naturally, many people are concerned this time too that the Warsaw Pact countries' new step might be yet another missed opportunity.

"At the same time the recipes proposed by J. Steele also give rise to objections.

"First, the writer is for some reason confused about the Warsaw Pact countries' proposals being based on the concept of equality (he considers this a 'weak spot'). Furthermore, he tries to contrast the concept of 'sufficiency' with the concept of 'parity.' This is worth analyzing.

"The concept of 'sufficiency' reflects the correlation between military potential and defense capability. The fact that it has been taken as the principle for military building reflects the lack of any desire for military superiority on the part of the USSR. The use of this principle in practice is a manifestation of the new political thinking and practical recognition of the conclusion that more arms by no means always means more security and that a country will gain more from restructring itself to what it needs for defense than it would through continuing to participate in the arms race. Needless to say, the fleshing out of this concept depends on the international conditions in which a country finds itself—including the level of the threat to its security from outside.

"Parity is the feature of the correlation between two sides' forces when they achieve approximate equality. But parity is not just a proclaimed goal but a reality that exists and has played a considerable role as a factor in maintaining international security.

"Therefore these two concepts should not be contrasted in the sphere of logical analysis (they reflect different aspects of phenomena) nor should the rejection of parity, which has proved to be a reliable means of strengthening peace, be made an end in itself in real political life.

"But it is also true that parity can be established at different levels. It can come about haphazardly at high and even excessively high levels as a result of rivalry and mutual distrust, but can also be established at a lower and diminishing level as a result of coordinated efforts by two sides aware of the danger and futility of the arms race.

"Nobody now disputes that progress toward a safer world is possible through consistent arms reduction so as to ensure that at every level of security neither side is harmed. The condition whereby security is ensured on the basis of reciprocity is both a reflection and a result of parity.

"If both sides are guided by the principle of sufficiency—in other words, if they do not strive for military superiority—parity could be established at the lowest achievable level, which would accord with their mutual interests and with the task of maintaining international peace.

"J. Steele sees the second shortcoming in the Warsaw Pact countries' proposals in the fact that they require talks as distinct from the unilateral actions preferred by the writer of the article.

"Well, circles sincerely striving to overcome the difficulties that inevitably attend talks have long been of the opinion that these difficulties could be avoided if both sides acted on the basis of 'reciprocal example.' It is hardly worth ruling out such a possibility in principle, all the more so as the sides' arsenals are often asymmetrical and it is very hard to agree to reductions on the 'missiles-for-tanks' or 'tanks-for-planes' principle.

"However, let us turn to history. If we discuss even just the recent past, it is the Soviet Union that has set the example in declaring a unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. The U.S. response is well known: It was by no means constructive. Other instances can also be cited. There are many of them, including in the sphere of conventional arms.

"The way proposed by J. Steele may lead to results if the examples are indeed reciprocal, and to do so requires political will—possessed in abundance by the Soviet side but hitherto clearly lacking in the West. If some people in the West see the further disarmament process as a journey from one Soviet concession to another, it is time that they realized how unrealistic those calculations are.

"The truest, but hardest, way lies through talks on disarmament. The Soviet side is ready for disarmament—that is attested by the numerous proposals submitted by the Soviet Union, include those made together with allied states.

"The article also includes other disputable points (for instance, those points linked with the look back at the history of military building in the fifties). We will consider them to be a reflection of the writer's personal views, to which, needless to say, he is entirely entitled."

UK MP Compiles Report on NATO Satellites, Plans

LD102156 Moscow TASS in English 1216 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Brussels September 10 TASS—The principal NATO powers actively use outer space for military purposes, British MP Robert Banks said in a report prepared on behalf of the Military Committee of the North Atlantic Assembly for the latter's forthcoming regular session in two weeks in Oslo, Norway.

The report said the Pentagon had been using space for its purposes for more than 20 years now. U.S. early warning satellites had been on geostationary orbits for many years and a new generation of such satellites was to be orbited in the '90s.

Tracking and reconnaissance satellites were also used actively, with Big Bird spy satellites being gradually replaced with more advanced KN-11S.

The report also pointed to a crash U.S. effort to develop anti-satellite weapons.

In Canada, it continued, work was under way on a five-year program of military space studies, which was estimated at 47 million Canadian dollars. It was planned to build an array of radar satellites to be orbited over the Arctic and also to launch military communications systems.

Britain, Banks said, had become the first Western European NATO member to put a military communications satellite (Skynet-1 bought from the United States) in a geostationary orbit in 1969. Now London was planning to launch three Skynet-4 satellites and develop a spy satellite codenamed Zircon.

France, which officially was not a member of the North Atlantic bloc's military wing, used the Syracuse-1 military communications satellite and was going to launch Syracuse-2 in 1991, the report said. Preparations were under way to orbit the Helios spy satellite the data from which would be provided for a fee to Italy and West Germany.

'Socialism and Peace' Conference Opens in Ulyanovsk

PM140957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Sep 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Peace for Planet Earth"]

[Text] Ulyanovsk, 4 Sep—Passionate appeals to defend peace throughout the world were heard today in the great hall of the Lenin Memorial in Ulyanovsk. The international conference "Socialism and Peace," dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Great October, has opened here. Delegations from 117 socialist and developing countries and a large detachment of activists from the Soviet movement of supporters of peace representing Moscow, Leningrad, and the capitals of all the Soviet Union's union and autonomous republics and oblast centers are participating in the work of the conference.

"It is profoundly symbolic that our meeting is taking place in the homeland of the great Lenin, the founder of the first state of workers and peasants on the planet," H. Mangal, chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization, stressed.

The thought that the complex of global problems that have piled up today on the planet are comparable with an "infernal" train running into the abyss ran through the reports at the plenary session.

The conference particpants created commissions on topical problems of the contemporary international peace movement.

The commissions will meet on the *"Lenin"* steamship, which left Ulyanovsk in the evening for Volgograd, where the conference's concluding plenary session will be held.

A mass peace and friendship rally took place before the departure. It made an appeal to the United Nations.

Paris Meeting Held on Nuclear Waste Problem

PM161517 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

[Yu. Zhukov article under the rubric "Science and Technology Abroad": "Nuclear Power Stations: Where To Put the Waste?"]

[Text] The second international scientific conference devoted to the problem of nuclear power station waste was held in Paris at the end of August. Some 640 specialists from 23 countries spent 4 days seeking the answer to the question of what to do with this waste, whose quantity is increasing rapidly along with the development of nuclear power.

According to scientists' estimates, by 1995 the Western powers alone will have accumulated approximately 55,000 tonnes of spent, but still radioactive, nuclear fuel, and this figure will reach 125,000 tonnes by the year 2000. Where is it to be put? This problem is becoming increasingly acute, especially for France, where nuclear power is particularly developed.

For the time being, radioactive waste is hermetically sealed within concrete containers or iron drums, which are then packed inside a kind of concrete sarcophagus. One such huge dump is in Brittany, in northwest France, but it will soon be full and will have to be closed in 1990. Therefore, it has been decided to create a new dump on the territory of the Aube Departement, in the region of the settlements of Soulaines, Epotemon [name as transliterated], and Ville-aux-Bois—it will occupy 100 hectares. The cost of this huge radioactive waste dump is half a billion francs.

It is thought that it will take only 30 years to fill it, after which it will have to be monitored closely for another 300 years, until the radioactive elements decay. The problem is compounded by the fact that, as the newspaper *Le Matin* put it recently, concrete containers "tend to crack after a certain time according to the laws of evolution of materials, which have not yet been fully researched."

Equally difficult problems confront all states that have nuclear power stations. How are they to manage? What is to be done? Opening the international conference in Paris 24 August, Nuclear Power Commissariat President Jean-Pierre Capron answered these questions as follows: "The only responsible approach to the destinies of future generations is to reprocess nuclear power station waste."

French scientists have already accumulated certain experience of this work. After waste has been removed from a reactor, it is kept in isolation on the nuclear power station's territory for 1 year, losing a certain proportion of its radioactivity. Then it is taken to an experimental plant, where it is first stored for a further 2 years and then freed mechanically or chemically from its isolating jacket and dissolved in nitric acid. After this, by means of certain procedures, the nitrates of uranium and plutonium are precipitated in the form of solid matter and can then be reused.

Skeptical specialists in other countries object: It is more costly to obtain uranium and plutonium by means of such reprocessing than to obtain natural uranium, which is now relatively inexpensive. U.S. and Swedish scientists prefer to wait and see how uranium prices will change on the world market. If the price goes up in some 10-20 years' time, they say, then it will be possible to tackle the reprocessing of nuclear power station waste. But for the time being, let it be kept in dumps.

In Britain, the FRG, and Japan specialists approach the matter in a less carefree manner—they have followed France's lead and already begun experiments in reprocessing nuclear power station waste. Fully automated plants are being created for this purpose, where proper radiation safety is ensured—the entire production process is carried out without involving people.

It is clear from reports delivered at the Paris conference that France will already be reprocessing 1,600 tonnes of nuclear power station waste a year by 1992, while Britain will be reprocessing 800 tonnes. The FRG is preparing to reprocess 350 tonnes of waste by 1995, and Japan 800 tonnes a year by approximately the same date.

Reporting this, *Le Monde* writes that all this will be little enough, as by then the development of nuclear power will have attained a very wide scale. Thus, the point-blank question of where to put nuclear power station waste retains its topicality.

International Space Forum To Open 2 Oct

OW100211 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 9 Sep 87

[From the "90 Minutes" program]

[Text] The next event I would like to talk about will take place in Moscow from 2 to 4 October. It will be the international space forum, which will mark the 30th anniversary of the launch of the first artificial earth satellite.

Questions of developing space science and technology and applied uses of space for peaceful purposes will be discussed at the forum. The international organizing group is headed by Academician Sagdeyev, director of the Space Research Institute.

Protestant, Orthodox Theologians Confer in Budapest

PM151431 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Theologians' Conference Ended"]

[Text] Budapest, 5 Sep—An international scientific conference of religious figures and theological scientists on the subject "Dialogue Between the Reformed and the Orthodox Church" has concluded its work here. Approximately 40 church representatives from the United States, Canada, Britain, the FRG, Finland, and Switzerland participated in its work. A delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church headed by Metropolitan Filaret of Kiev and Galicia also attended the conference.

International Situation: Questions & Answers

LD190422 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 18 Sep 87

["International Situation—Questions and Answers" program presented by international affairs commentator Vyacheslav Lavrentyev with political observer Nikolay Shishlin and commentators Nikolay Agayants and Boris Andrianov]

[Excerpts] [Lavrentyev] Dear listeners, our broadcast is compiled from replies to your letters, many of which touch upon global problems: collective security, curbing the nuclear arms race, and mutual relations between East and West. A number of listeners—particularly war and labor veteran from the village of Krivozerye in Penza Oblast, Yakov Tikhonovich Makarov—expresses doubt about the need for dialogue with the West and the expediency of the Geneva and Vienna talks. Here we do not agree with you, Yakov Tikhonovich. Your doubts are based on the fact that to date these talks have not led to the conclusion of the corresponding agreements. But you completely fail to take account of the overall dynamics of relations between East and West. This clearly shows that there is under way a process of drawing together the positions of the two sides on many questions, that overall in the world the striving not for confrontation but for dialogue and for achieving mutual understanding is increasingly decisively making progress. Political Observer Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin will give you a more detailed answer. Nikolay Vladimirovich, please:

[Shishlin] I would like to call the attention of our listeners to the following: the false impression is sometimes created about the process of negotiations and the results of the negotiations, not just the final ones but also the intermediate ones. In particular, the opinion exists at times that the USSR, which puts forward bold and broad initiatives one after another to achieve a mutually acceptable compromise, simply makes one concession after another to the Western position, while the West just puts these concessions into its bag—that this is a one way street. This is not so. This is not correct. Both in Geneva and in Vienna, at the talks being held there—but primarily, of course, in Geneva—very serious and difficult work is being conducted, a struggle if you like, during which the positions of each side change.

Take, for example, the agreement that is most likely now and now exists in almost its final form. This is the Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles, the double-zero option. Have we made concessions to the West in developing our position on this agreement? Absolutely, yes. Even though, on the whole, one must say that the very idea of the double zero, on both medium-range and operational-tactical missiles, originated in Moscow. What steps did the United States take to move toward the USSR's position? The picture here is interesting.

First, at the start when medium-range missiles were being discussed, the Americans thought the solution should be sought as follows: that they would not dismantle their medium-range missiles, their Pershing-2's, but would just remove the second stage so that the Pershing-2 missiles would be turned into Pershing-1B missiles—that is, operational-tactical missiles—and that that would be the end of the matter. Of course, this was completely unsuitable. During rather complicated negotiations, the United States gave up this idea and now it is a matter of a real zero on medium-range missiles. Further, the Americans were in favor of simply redeploying the cruise missiles, which they had sited on the territory of a number of Western European states, onto naval vessels, thus changing very little with regard to the total balance of this category of armaments. There would, in practice, be no question of any zero. But now the picture is different. The United States has given up this intention and has accommodated the Soviet position and Soviet demands that were well argued and thought out.

The question of verification looks a bit more complicated. The USSR proposed all-embracing verification of the implementation of the agreement on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles. The United States constantly made a fuss about wanting absolute verification, all-permeating verification. But as soon as the Soviet proposal for truly strict verification was put on the negotiating table, the Americans began to back off, as they say. They began to submit all sorts of restrictions on this verification, trying most of all to exclude from verification U.S. military production where they make all of these articles called medium-range and operational-tactical missiles. In particular, they are very nervous about the idea of destroying nuclear warheads. As is known, this problem has not yet been resolved and stubborn negotiations are being conducted on this problem now in the United States. Clearly they will be continued in Geneva so that this agreement, which is virtually 95-98 percent ready, can be brought to its logical conclusion.

But there is a second question, not just the question of reciprocal concessions, but the question of the general approach to the contemporary international situation. I would like to call your attention, comrades, to the recent article by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev where it is quite correctly noted that we speak and have spoken too often about the danger of the present world situation when it is important now not to announce the existence of a certain level of tension in international relations, not to announce the existence of the threat of nuclear war but to act to overcome this threat, to act to really affirm a universal system of international security. Can we do this alone? Of course not. Can the United States do it alone, should they want to? Again, of course not. So, in this case the principle should be that it is precisely universal security that is the guarantee of each state's security. There is no way other than dialogue; no way other than putting forward new ideas; no way other than joint work on affirming this concept of a universal system of international security.

By the way, as far as one can tell from the first reactions to the article by the Soviet leader, it is noteworthy that it is not at all accusatory, but reflects very deeply the essence of contemporary international problems and is an invitation to join in considering these matters, an invitation to join in the work on affirming what we call a universal system of international security. Because, there are problems in international life on which we are not waiting for our negotiating partners to say yes or no. We are simply waiting for a yes, since a no is simply unacceptable for mankind, which must have a secure future.

[Lavrentyev] Nikolay Vladimirovich, if a Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles is achieved, what in your view will be the further course of the disarmament process? Is there any particular plan in this regard? This is asked in particular by Comrade (Antonov) from Bobruysk.

[Shishlin] Once again, I must refer to the article by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, although the subsequent steps were known before this article. All these steps are in fact in a very active state. In the first place, I would quote here the efforts being made to solve the problems that are linked with the reduction of strategic offensive armaments. What we are talking about is nothing more nor less than a 50 percent reduction in this class of armaments, on the understanding that the working of the antimissile defense treaty will be strengthened. This, too, is achievable, and one can agree with Mikhail Sergeyevich, who considers that an agreement of that kind, that a compromise of that kind, could be worked out within the first half of next year, 1988. Nor do we leave outside our field of view the problem of the so-called conventional armaments, which today approach weapons of mass destruction in their destructive capabilities.

The Soviet Union has in fact put forward a principle for the solution of this problem. In the West, they continually assert that there is a lack of balance in conventional armaments between the NATO countries and the Warsaw Treaty countries. But we dispute this assertion, and we do so rightfully. Here everything has to be counted scrupulously. But whichever way it is, the following principle is being proposed: wherever one side or the other has any superiority, this must be equalized through the reduction and elimination of this superiority, not through the other side being brought up to the higher level of armaments. One very important problem, of course, is the banning and the elimination of chemical armaments, and here an agreement has been fully outlined: a very large amount of work has already been done, which is making it possible to count on getting a good, major solution that would put an end not just to the stockpiling and the further improvement of chemical armaments, but that would set the start for the process of eliminating chemical weapons as such. So there are vast plans here, but not just plans; there is also the specific political and diplomatic work that is today being carried out by the Soviet Union—and naturally not by the Soviet Union alone, but together with its socialist friends and together with other members of the world community, not excluding, of course, the United States as the major Western power, in the military sense.

[Lavrentyev] Listener Vysotskiy, Viktor Vasilyevich from the village of Leonovka in the Chernigov Oblast asks us to talk about cooperation between CEMA and the EEC. CEMA and the EEC are major economic groupings in Europe, playing a substantial role in the world economy. The establishment of all- round, mutually beneficial cooperation between them would therefore be useful for the countries belonging to these groups and for improving the political climate on the continent. Proceeding from this, CEMA submitted a proposal that official relations be established between these organizations and presented the draft of a so-called framework agreement on the foundations of mutual relations. For its own part, the Common Market put forward a different draft. After 11 rounds of talks it proved possible to reach agarement on the development of cooperation in fields like environment, statistics, standardization, and economic forecasting. But the issues of principle were not solved.

Then CEMA proposed to the EEC leadership the signing of a declaration establishing official relations. This would permit the development of cooperation in all fields within the competence of the two organizations. This proposal was favorably received in Western Europe. Virtually the only remaining obstacle that has not been removed remains the recognition of West Berlin. CEMA rejects the point, which effectively means that West Berlin belongs to the EEC. This argument arose earlier during contacts between the Common Market and individual socialist countries. Nevertheless, observers note that it is more than likely that official relations will be established between these groups by the end of the year.

The alarming situation that has arisen in the Persian Gulf zone in recent months remains, as before, the center of world attention. Our editorial office's mail contains many letters from people asking for more details about what is happening there. In particular, we have received such a request from Vadim Volodin from Melitopol, Ala

Chernyavskaya from Moscow, war and labor veteran Mikhail Petrovich Bekassov from Barnaul, and others. Over to my colleague, commentator Nikolay Agayants:

[Agayants] In the period since Washington, followed by its allies, decided to send its naval vessels to the explosive region, the situation has become strained to the limits. Although all these steps are being undertaken by the Western powers under the pretext of defending freedom of navigation, it is absolutely clear that it is primarily a question of the imperial ambitions of the present U.S. administration and its striving to turn the Persian Gulf into an internal U.S. lake. A powerful naval armada under the stars and stripes is sent thousands of miles from its own shores, which is then obligingly joined by naval vessels from Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, and the Netherlands. Rumors are now being whipped up in the Western press that Japan, too, is prepared to join in these operations. [passage omitted]

It seems that Washington is trying by hook or crook to draw Japan into the joint efforts of the West, into the notorious defending of freedom of navigation in a zone where it will only take a tiny spark to ignite the fire of conflict. This can only arouse—and naturally does arouse—serious concern among all people of goodwill wherever they live and whatever their views. But the United States is continuing to whip up tension in the region. [passage omitted]

That is how matters stand, and unfortunately, there are no rays of hope to be seen yet in the situation that has arisen.[passage omitted]

[Lavrentyev] Judging from the letters being received by our program, many radio listeners are interested in the problems of Soviet-Chinese relations, particularly the development of economic ties between the two countries. Khadriy Mikhailovich Movchan from Kharkov, Sergey Grigoryevich Yeremeyev from Minsk,and a number of other comrades ask us, for example, to tell them about our country's cross-border trade with China. Over to my colleague, commentator Boris Andrianov:

[Andrianov] Trade between the border areas between our country and China began to develop more than 30 years ago. Thereafter, however, for certain reasons, it practically came to a halt. Meanwhile, it had proved to be an important channel for exchanging goods. Therefore, 5 years ago both countries agreed, out of mutual interest, to revive cross-border trade, which allows additional resources to be sought to boost the general trade turnover. Initially this involved regional trade cooperation between the frontier areas in our country and China. After a lengthy interruption, cross-border trade was restored in 1983 between the Maritime and Khabarovsk Krays, the Amur and Chita Oblasts on the Soviet side and the province of Heilongjiang, and the autonomous region of Nei Mongol on the PRC side.

Two years later the trade volume exceeded by almost five times the maximum level achieved at the beginning of the sixties. Soon those taking part in cross-border trade were joined by the Irkutsk and Sakhalin Oblasts and the Buryat Autonomous Republic. The Chinese side extended its participation. Since last year, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomus Region has started cross border trading with Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Tadzhikistan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, the Krasnoyarsk, and Altay Krays, and with the Kemerovo Oblast. If we look at a map we can see what an extensive area of our country adjacent to or near the frontier with China is now involved in this type of trade exchange with the neighboring country—an exchange which has incidentally increased twentyfold from 1983 to 1986.

A special feature of cross-border trading is the fact that it is based on the so-called barter principle, the direct exchange of goods worth an equal sum. This allows a whole series of tasks of regional significance to be resolved swiftly and efficiently. The mutual benefits here are quite obvious. You see, many of the goods that each country needs are produced, one might say, right next door. The Chinese partners are interested in deliveries from the Soviet Union of mineral fertilizers, building materials—particularly cement, timber, corrugated iron roofing, window glass—and cars, motorcycles, mopeds; durable domestic electrical appliances like refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, washing machines, and other industrially manufactured articles that we have in sufficient quantities.

In our country there is a great demand for good footwear, especially sports footwear, for ready-made garments and knitwear, for men's and children's underwear, cotton fabrics, towels, enamelware, and thermos flasks. To satisfy the market for these goods the production must, of course, be expanded, which is being done. But part of the current shortage can already be compensated for by trading with our Chinese neighbor, which has these goods at its disposal for export to our country. The cross-border exchange of these goods allows the delivery times to be cut down and unjustifiable expenditure to be avoided on transport that is inevitable when obtaining similar goods from the central regions, and all the more so from abroad.

So, cross-border trade demonstrates its advantages right there, helping satisfy the population's needs for essential goods, and without incurring additional costs, which means it is economically advantageous. I believe Soviet shoppers who can acquire Chinese-made goods are in agreement with this.

It should be noted that under cross-border trade, China exports to our country frozen pork and beef, canned foods, sausage, fruits and vegetables, which makes it possible to improve supplies to the population in the respective regions of the Soviet Union and to raise our working people's standard of living.

The question may occur to some of our listeners as to whether it is worth developing a cross-border exchange of goods if interstate trade is going on and expanding. The fact is that cross-border trade is not a substitute for trade on the state level but does considerably supplement interstate trade of which the greater share is made up of deliveries of machines and equipment. It is thereby necessary to make it clear that the volume of cross-border trade is provided first and foremost by the consumer cooperatives of the krays and oblasts, on account of goods of the market reserves of the cooperative and state trade networks. This goods turnover widely embraces locally produced goods, as well as products made at enterprises of nationwide significance situated on the territory of a definite region. Here you should probably note one extremely important fact: the most objective evaluation of the quality of goods is provided by the foreign market. They simply have no use for poor quality goods abroad. This means that extensive cross-border trade does, among everything else, serve as a stimulus for people to improve the quality of goods produced and make production more efficient. [passage omitted]

[Lavrentyev] Listener Ivan Alekseyevich Skvortsov from Moscow and Comrade Petrov from Novocherkassk ask: Why is it not possible to end the Iran-Iraq war by halting the sale of weapons to those countries? If weapons are not supplied to them, the conflict should stop on its own. The whole question is: How can the flow of weapons to these countries be halted when at least 23 countries are engaged in this business? The flourishing world arms market continues to supply Iran, for example, with everything it needs for waging modern warfare: aircraft and missiles. It is an unusually profitable business. Since 1981, Iran has acquired weapons worth $6 billion, more often than not through intermediaries in third countries. Dozens of European countries—Italy, Portugal, and Sweden—find ways to conceal the trade from official controls and sell large quantities of military equipment to Iran.

The U.S. Administration also takes an ambiguous position on this issue. In 1979, when hostages were seized at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Washington became angry and introduced an arms embargo on Iran. But, as has been shown by Irangate, the U.S. Government has itself violated this ban. Now calls are once again being made from the White House—now they are being directed to the United Nations—for an embargo of that kind to be introduced. But there is no guarantee that this embargo will operate effectively. At the moment, for example, there are three offices operating openly on Victoria Street in London through which Iran acquires weapons. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

ILO Convention Ratified

Moscow September 15 TASS—A report was circulated here today that the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, by a decree dated September 11, 1987, had ratified convention 134 of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the prevention of accidents among seamen. The convention was adopted by the 55th session of the ILO general conference on October 14, 1970. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0838 GMT 14 Sep 87 LD]

United States & Canada

Dubinin Gives Students Gorbachev Reply

LD190957 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0755 GMT 19 Sep 87

[Text] Washington, 19 Sep (TASS)—A message of reply from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, to a letter from a group of U.S. students from a Beaverton (Oregon) "TASS parenthesis" middle school was handed over in a festive atmosphere on Friday in the Soviet Embassy here.

Soviet Ambassador Yuriy Dubinin read the text of the message in which the Soviet leader thanked the U.S. students for their letter, which expresses the desire to preserve peace on the plant and which contains their own "program for saving the world."

The Soviet ambassador gave the message from Gorbachev to school principal Jack Kirby, who led the group of U.S. children. He was also handed a colorfully illustrated book about the Soviet Union, a gift from Gorbachev to the U.S. children in response to the symbolic "rug of peace" they made with their own hands and sent along with their letter to the Soviet leader.

In their speeches, Kirby and a teacher at the school, Harriet Nicholson, warmly thanked Gorbachev for the attention shown to the U.S. children.

Officials Comment on Arms Agreement

LD201335 Moscow TASS in English 1137 GMT 20 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 20 TASS—U.S. President Ronald Reagan in his Saturday, September 19, radio address described as a big event the agreement between the Soviet Union and the United states on medium- and shorter-range missiles, attained in the course of the Washington visit of Foreign Minister of the USSR Eduard Shevardnadze.

"In three full days of talks important progress was made", the President said. "The United States and the Soviet Union have now agreed in principle to completing a truly historic treaty that will eliminate an entire class of U.S. and Soviet intermediate range missiles", Reagan stressed.

"We expect to sign the treaty later this fall at a summit", the President said.

"We agreed to begin formal negotiations on verifying existing nuclear testing treaties, and to forge ahead toward another historic objective, cutting our strategic nuclear arsenals in half."

Meanwhile the President said he will not "sacrifice" the SDI programme. "Yesterday we announced that we're moving forward on SDI to demonstrate and validate six promising technologies", he said.

Speaking on Saturday at a congress of the National Federation of Republican Women in Orlando (Florida), U.S. Vice President George Bush hailed the proposed U.S.-Soviet arms control treaty. He said, among other things: "Now it looks like we're going to have an arms control agreement with the Soviets, one that for the first time in the nuclear age will reduce, not limit, but reduce, the number of nuclear weapons". Referring to his plans to announce on October 12 his presidential candidacy from the Republican Party, Bush said he will advocate "extending our progress on arms control with a verifiable agreement to eliminate all chemical and biological armaments".

The agreement in principle on concluding a treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles, attained at the recent Washington Soviet-American negotiations, is a good beginning in the process of limitation of armaments, said U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Talking to journalists in Boston he said that the agreement on medium-range and shorter-range missiles would leave a multitude of nuclear and conventional armaments which always existed. But this is a remarkable start and in many respects the agreement reached is history. But the chief of the Pentagon tried to present things in a way that allegedly a breakthrough towards concluding a treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles took place only because the United States acquired sufficient military might over the present administration's term in office.

According to the AP news agency, Caspar Weinberger has just approved acceleration of work in six Star Wars technologies.

An NBC TV correspondent reports in his reportage from the White House that Caspar Weinberger does not conceal he is against certain aspects of the agreement and, as is noted by Pentagon representatives, it is not casual [as received] that the defence secretary announced acceleration of the Star Wars programme at a time when Eduard Shevardnadze was still in Washington. According to the NBC television company, Caspar Weinberger is backed up by the President's conservative followers.

Senate Pushes ABM Treaty Observance

LD172010 Moscow TASS in English 1946 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 17 TASS—The United States Senate has bound the Reagan administration to unswervingly observe the 1972 Soviet-American Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty.

An amendment to the bill on U.S. military spendings for the 1988 fiscal year, passed by a 58-38 vote, calls for Senate approval of any tests under the Star Wars programme going beyond the traditional interpretation of the ABM Treaty.

Weinberger Approves Plans for SDI Tests

Recommendations Outlined

LD191147 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0715 GMT 19 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 19 TASS—U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger has approved recommendations for demonstrating and validating six technological developments that can be used in the deployment of the first phase of the antimissile defence system with space-based elements. An official statement to this effect was made by the Pentagon Friday. The point is the development of various types of interceptor missiles, a surveillance and tracking system as well as a battle management/command and control, and communications for the control of the whole ABM system with space-based elements. The recommendations were outlined by the members of the defence acquisition board, which includes the Pentagon top brass.

The statement by the Pentagon was issued right after the closing of the talks in Washington of USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze with President Reagan and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The Pentagon's decision is being assessed here as an effort to throw a monkey wrench—by whatever means—into the process of talks betweent the USSR and the United States on the problem of limitng and reducing strategic nuclear weapons. Prominent spectialists, including U.S. specialists, convincingly demonstrated a long time ago that the implementation of programs within the SDI framework will drastically undercut the possibilities for achieving progress in solving that problem, not to mention the possibilities for ultimately eliminating all nuclear weapons. Evidently the significant success achieved during the Soviet-U.S. talks, which have just ended, on the earliest possible signing of an agreement to eliminate medium-range nuclear systems and operational-tactical nuclear weapons has provoked panic in the Pentagon: What if the matter of reducing strategic weapons starts to move forward at the same rate? To all appearances such a turn of events would not suit the U.S. military-industrial complex at all.

Shows 'Hypocrisy'

LD172006 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow, 17 Sep (TASS)—TASS military issues observer Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

According to the U.S. press, the Pentagon is planning to speed up research into and tests of key technological elaborations under the SDI program to prepare for the possible deployment of an ABM system in space in the mid-90s. At the same time the U.S. Defense Department has unleashed a wide-ranging propaganda campaign to try and convince the public of the existence of some "Soviet military threat from space" and to obtain a sharp increase in appropriations from Congress for the implementation of the "Star Wars" program. At the head of the campaign is Defense Minister Caspar Weinberger himself, who has almost simultaneously published several articles on the subject. The "programmatic" place in the "star warriors'" striving to mislead the public has been earmarked for his speech at the annual congress of the U.S. Air Force Association. But this speech is more likely to confuse the propagandists of space militarization rather than "arm" them with any sort of "arguments", since there is far too much hypocrisy in it, logic is totally absent, and, despite refined camouflage, the true objectives of the U.S. militarists clearly show through.

C. Weinberger razes to the ground the main Pentagon theses about a "space threat" from the USSR and about the United States allegedly "having lost the leading role in space". "We lead in operational capability...From the viewpoint of present military operational assets and for the foreseeable future, we have a capability that exceeds the Soviet capability in almost every aspect," he declares. This kind of "frankness" is completely understandable: After all, the colossal sums the Pentagon has already spent on preparing space strike systems have to be justified.

But then the minister, as if suddenly remembering that the necessity to speed up SDI has to be "substantiated", tries to instill in the public a "most serious concern" about the Soviet space program. Allegedly it is being implemented more actively than by the United States it has a clear military direction, it is provided with a most significant spacecraft launch capability, and it includes an impressive program of manned space flights.

All this provides broad opportunities for constructing a space strategic defense system. The main point of all this is that the boss of the Pentagon presents the USSR's potential as something already in existence. But if, for example, the presence of powerful rocket launching vehicles is used as "proof" of the Soviet Union preparing for the militarization of space, then, following the same logic—if it can be called that—any state that builds aircraft could be accused of preparing an atomic bomb. The USSR has no program for the creation [sozdaniye] of space strike arms, it has no "Star Wars" plans similar to those of the United States. It has stated more than once at the highest level that even if the United States deploys SDI, it will not follow the U.S. steps, and its response will be asymmetrical.

Weinberger says that SDI does not aim at achieving military superiority, yet he "shows his cards" then and there. According to the "latest" U.S. strategy, he says, nuclear "deterrence" at all levels cannot be achieved without space forces; military requirements must reamin the United States' top priority in space efforts; everything should be directed toward preserving U.S. technical superiority in near-earth space; and one should not even examine—let alone conclude—any agreements restricting the military use by the United States of any space platforms. Then, quite unexpectedly, after expounding these true aims of the Pentagon, with no hint of embarrassment, the Pentagon boss declares that the militarization of space by the United States is intended to promote an international atmosphere in which it will be possible to conclude arms reduction agreements. It is hard to say whether there is more hypocrisy or elementary illogicality here!

The main thing in the U.S. military and political leadership's approach to the opening up of space is that it necessarily views it in an antagonistic light. There lies the fundamental difference from the Soviet approach. The Star Peace program submitted by the USSR proposes not rivalry in space, not "point-scoring", but the close cooperation of all states in the peaceful opening up of near-earth space for the benefit of all mankind. Anyone who is in a hurry to fill space with assault weapons is attempting to take the fateful step that would spur an unrestrained and uncontrolled arms race in all directions and would inevitably increase the threat of a nuclear war, which would be disastrous for human civilization throughout the world.

Program 'Speeding Up'

PM150821 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Sep 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "They Are Speeding Up 'Star Wars'"]

[Text] Washington, 7 Sep—The U.S. Administration is preparing to embark on the experimental testing stage of the "Star Wars" program.

As the *Baltimore Sun* found out, at the end of this week the Pentagon is planning to announce its decision to conduct a number of "demonstration" tests with satellites and certain arms and monitoring systems developed within the framework of the "Star Wars" program. The step in preparation is a qualitatively new phase in the implementation of the White House's plans to militarize space. For it is in effect a question of developing [otrabotka] by experimental means the "first generation" of "Star Wars" systems. As the *Baltimore Sun* emphasizes, "the U.S. Defense Department has decided that the multilayered ABM system must be installed in phases, and now the Pentagon has chosen the likeliest arms and detection systems for the first phase."

General Abrahamson, director of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" Organization, stated in an interview with the newspaper that the stage of "demonstration" tests and assessments, which includes experiments with orbital satellites, missile launches, and computer simulations, will last from 3 to 5 years. "After its completion—in approximately 1990-1992," the *Baltimore Sun* writes, "the Pentagon will be able to make a decision on full-scale development [razrabotka] of a prototype for the strategic defense-1 system," which General Abrahamson called "the sensible first step" toward creating a multilayered ABM system with space-based elements.

The systems chosen by the Pentagon for "demonstration" development [otrabotka] include kinetic armaments. According to U.S. Air Force estimates, the creation of a "space shield" will require that 600-900 satellites be placed into orbit around the earth. Each of these will be equipped with 10-15 kinetic weapons systems.

In the opinion of the *Baltimore Sun*, by announcing the commencement of "demonstrations" of elements of SDI the Reagan administration is endeavoring to present the "Star Wars" program as an inalienable fact of U.S. national policy. In other words, it is making a blatant attempt to lay such a powerful foundation for SDI as to guarantee that it will be continued under any subsequent administration. As Representative John Sprat admitted in an interview with the *Baltimore Sun*, the present Democratic Party presidential contenders who criticize SDI will now have a hard time. Even if the Democrats regain the White House in the 1988 presidential elections, the congressman said, "most of the SDI projects will continue."

It is no coincidence that on the threshold of the planned transfer of work on the "Star Wars" program to the stage of intensive experiments and "demonstrations" its supporters have sharply stepped up their campaign to push through new multibillion-dollar appropriations for SDI and remove any restrictions on its continuation. A typical example of these efforts is an article published in the last issue of *U.S. News and World Report* by Richard Perle, a fervent "Star Wars" apologist, who until recently occupied the post of U.S. assistant secretary of defense. Perle accuses those who oppose the administration's plans to transfer the arms race into space of "trying to hang SDI on the gallows of arms control." The former ranking Pentagon spokesman affirms that approval of the amendment put forward for examination by the U.S. Senate, which demands observance of a "narrow" interpretation of the ABM Treaty and forbids expenditure of resources on developing [razrabotka] or testing space-based systems, will mean "the death knell for SDI."

Joint U.S. Seismic Tests Viewed

PM091402 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Sep 87 First Edition p 1

[Special correspondent Colonel M. Rebrov report: "In the Name of Trust. The Soviet-U.S. Experiment: Realities and Prospects"]

[Text] Karaganda, Moscow — "Every earthquake can be likened to a torch that is lit for a short time and lights up the interior of the earth for us, enabling us to look at what is happening there." This metaphor belongs to the remarkable physicist and geophysicist Academician Boris Borisovich Golitsyn of the St Petersburg Academy of Sciences — one of the founders of scientific seismology. It comes to mind in connection with the Soviet-U.S. experiment that began a year ago and reached a new, very important stage in the first few days of September.

Nuclear explosions, which the Soviet Union has for many years advocated ending, also "light up" what is happening, only not inside the planet, but in the minds of those who brandish lethal weapons and are prepared to push the world into the abyss of nuclear catastrophe. And here the situation is more than serious. More than 40 years of nuclear explosions — combat and test explosions — provide plenty of grounds for that assertion.

The value of science is that it deals in facts. The facts are that in the world today so many nuclear warheads have been stockpiled that there is a sufficient quantity to repeat Hiroshima on a planetwide scale and destroy all mankind many times over. In terms of the energy yield, the nuclear arsenal, if it were to explode, is equivalent to a collision between our earth and a comparatively large heavenly body.

That is the reality. While acknowledging it, the U.S. Administration and the Pentagon seek to justify their dangerous policy, and declare that tests of nuclear devices are necessary to check on the technical condition of existing weapons. This is the story they try to instill in the gullible. But what lies behind it? In the interests of the truth, the following scientific fact should be recalled: The basis of any nuclear ammunition is the fissile "material," which is highly durable. The half-life, for instance, for plutonium-239 is 24,000 years, no less. For uranium-235 it is even more — 800 million years; and for uranium-238 it is 4.5 billion years. As for the "short-lived" components, they can be periodically replaced. The particularly complex components can be tested without recourse to explosions. This refutes yet another argument from the supporters of nuclear tests.

They try to conceal the lack of the political will resolutely to take a reasonable step under cover of the so-called "technical problem of verification," which is supposedly an obstacle to a nuclear test ban. But now a strictly scientific fact has emerged that is convincing evidence that contemporary geophysical methods make it possible to record explosions of even a very small yield, measured in hundredths of a kiloton. I am referring to the joint work by a Soviet-U.S.group of seismologists in Kazakhstan.

This experiment has been going on for a year. It began with the opening up of seismological stations in the region of Karkaralinsk (Karaganda Oblast), Bayanaul (Pavlodar Oblast), and Karasu (Semipalatinsk Oblast) and the installation of recording equipment and joint observations. Hundreds of records of events have been obtained over the months. The sensitive seismic instruments have more than once picked up the echoes of earthquakes in various corners of the planet, soil vibrations resulting from industrial explosions in local quarries, and also the echo of the underground nuclear explosions in distant Nevada.

The surface apparatus has yielded good results. Laboratory processing has made it possible to draw well-founded conclusions. The two countries' specialists have concluded that the accuracy of results will increase greatly if the observations are supplemented by the use of underground seismic equipment. The earthing of the sensitive unit at a depth of 90-100 meters precluded the influence of so-called background noise on the apparatus.

I have visited these stations and seen the paper tapes on which the recorders leave a continuous running "trace" and record all the events of interest to the scientists. If a signal arrives, it is recorded on magnetic tape. The paper reel is reloaded every day, the magnetic cassette is enough for 3 days. Every event is recorded in the computer memory. I also saw the processing of results in the laboratories and talked with U.S. specialists.

Professor Jonathan Berger, technical leader of the experiment on the U.S. side at the Karkaralinsk station, spoke enthusiastically of the events of 2 and 3 September:

"We obtained a splendid record of the explosions, especially the first. The quality is very high. During the night we talked by telephone with colleagues working at other stations. They also obtained splendid signals from all three explosions. Our efforts have been rewarded... Working conditions? Excellent. We are well received, the hospitality is fantastic..."

Alongside the hut where the U.S.-made apparatus is installed is our mobile seismic station, equipped with a portable automated unit. This also recorded the explosions in Nevada, and has now taken part in recording the data from this experiment.

"Our apparatus is in no way inferior to the U.S. apparatus," Doctor of Physico-Mathematical Sciences N. Yukhnin explained. "But in this case, conflict situations are excluded..."

So be it. The dual verification precludes "distortions." Congressman Thomas Downey wants to display the seismographs made by the Soviet and U.S. apparatus, with the signatures of all the participants in the experiment, as material evidence that the "technical problem of verification" is imaginary, during the forthcoming debates in the U.S. Congress' House of Representatives. This too is noteworthy.

Many curious technical details were explained during a conversation with M. Gokhberg and I. Nersesov, professors of the USSR Academy of Sciences' Earth Physics Institute. Nuclear explosions are more high-frequency than chemical ones. The example of this experiment has shown that it is possible to evaluate the frequencies of chemical explosions and compare them with nuclear explosions. Soviet scientists plan to spread measurement stations over a distance of more than 1,000 km, so as to evaluate the yield of nuclear explosions at the lowest thresholds. Taking part in this experiment, apart from the three permanent stations, are four temporary stations, and the two sides — the USSR and the United States — have agreed to continue for another year the work at the measurement stations close to the Soviet testing range.

The results of this stage of the experiment with the three low-yield explosions were summed up by Academician Ye. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

"In the U.S. Congress a growing number of people are calling for nuclear tests to be limited to a yield of 1 kiloton. We are also in favor of this approach. What has been demonstrated in Kazakhstan will be all to the good. From the scientific and technical viewpoint the road to the conclusion of a treaty banning nuclear explosions is open."

The accurate geophysical methods, the scientist stressed, that were discussed at an authoritative international forum of specialists (held in Moscow in summer 1986 — M.R.) and the present experiment show that it is possible to record explosions even of a very low yield. This is the unanimous and authoritative opinion of scientists from many countries.

But even today, the vice president went on, new arguments in "defense of distrust" are being invented. Alas, many of them have sprung up, but they have one thing in common — an inexhaustible mine of groundless fantasy and contradiction. It is suggested, for instance, that it is possible to carry out tests in remote space, even outside the solar system. It is also claimed that it is possible to create complex technical devices that will completely block the spread of seismic waves...

"We are prepared to offer our conclusion on the absurdity of these imaginary projects," Academician Ye. Velikhov stressed. "They are not impressive. Enormous structures, underground cavities, can easily be detected with the help of space devices."

However cunning the opponents of a nuclear test ban in their quest for obstacles of all kinds, the scientist noted in conclusion, the same conclusion suggests itself: This is not a technical matter, but a political matter. That is how the world public regards it...

Twenty-four Soviet and foreign journalists representing news agencies, newspapers and magazines, radio, and television had the opportunity to see for themselves that the coordinates of the explosions determined by the seismic stations coincide precisely with the certified data, that all the apparatus is in good order, that the yield of the charge in each of the wells was 405 kg, that the specialists are well acquainted with the "velocity" profile of the region. Moreover, at the time of the third explosion, a second or two before the explosives shook the ground, the mark of an earthquake happening somewhere far off appeared on the tape. The specialists had no difficulty in distinguishing one event from the other.

Thus another stage in the joint experiment has been completed. I asked American Congressman Thomas Downey: "You have been to the Soviet atomic testing range, watched the experiment, and talked with the scientists. What feelings and thoughts are prompted by what you have seen?"

"I am grateful for the opportunity we were given. The invitation to visit these and other places in the Soviet Union was in itself a demonstration of goodwill. These were explosions of trust, literally and metaphorically. We have seen for ourselves that from the technical viewpoint there is no obstacle to an agreement on ending tests of nuclear devices..."

I wish to repeat: The value of science is that it deals in facts. Politicians must realize that their farfetched arguments cannot refute the weighty evidence of the scientists.

That is the postscript to this event.

Reagan 'Diplomacy' Speech Criticized

Assertions Conflict 'Data'

LD170955 Moscow TASS in English 0926 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 17 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

President Reagan delivered on Wednesday a speech on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the formation of the U.S. Consultative Commission on Public Diplomacy. That commission was formed to draw up recommendations and take practical measures to circulate everywhere in the world official versions about the policy of the U.S. Administration and the American way of life. In his speech the head of the White House asserted that "public diplomacy" and real truth are almost the main instruments of the United States foreign policy. To put it mildly, Reagan's assertions are not confirmed by the data published by the Pentagon on the same day. It follows from that data that the U.S. military presence in various areas of the world has been and remains the chief instrument of the U.S. foreign policy, aside from attempts to influence other countries by means of a constant buildup of strategic arsenals. The data of the Department of Defence indicate that altogether 509,899 U.S. officers and men are now kept outside the U.S. borders, 346,907 out of that number in Western Europe, 129,159 in East Asian and Pacific countries, including South Korea and Japan, 16,756 in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia, 16,525 servicemen in North America (Canada), in South and Central America. The biggest concentration of U.S. forces in Central America is in countries situated close to Nicaragua, and also at the U.S. base Guantanamo on Cuban territory.

The iron fist of the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf area is also a patent example of the methods of the United States "public diplomacy".

Promotes 'Intervention'

PM181123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Hobbyhorse"]

[Text] Washington, 17 Sep—"Our public diplomacy is a powerful force, possibly the most powerful that we have for influencing the course of world history." That statement was made by President Reagan during a speech on the 40th anniversary of the creation of the U.S. consultative commission on public diplomacy. It is common knowledge that the "commission's" activity is aimed primarily at organizing wide-scale U.S. political interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states.

After noting that in our age "traditional diplomacy alone is not enough," Reagan stressed that the U.S. Administration must support dialogue with "the peoples of other countries using all our public diplomacy ability and resources." His words make it clear, however, that what he means above all is dialogue with antigovernment groupings and forces in independent countries and the use of them to form a kind of political fifth column that would act in the way that Washington requires. The administration is making extensive use of the potential of its propaganda radio stations like Voice of America and subversive radio stations such as Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe for the ideological conditioning of those forces and is allocating vast sums to this activity. Reagan cited, among other things, the doubling of the USIA budget since 1980 as his administration's achievement in this sphere.

For the umpteenth time the U.S President bombastically stated that America has been "entrusted with the mission of defending human freedom in the world." There is no doubt, however, that the U.S. Administration uses "public diplomacy" to pave the way to military intervention in various countries and regions with the aim of establishing U.S.-style "democratic procedures" there or of settling scores with states whose policy Washington dislikes. This was shown graphically during the U.S. aggression on Grenada, in Libya, and in Lebanon. The U.S. propaganda machine is currently working vigorously to ensure support for Israel, which is pursuing a policy of genocide against the Palestinian Arab people.

It is noteworthy that on the very day of Reagan's speech the U.S. Defense Department published statistics on the U.S. military presence in various parts of the world. According to the Pentagon's information there are a total of 509,889 officers and men currently stationed abroad.

Reagan Attitude Prompts 'Rejection'

LD091643 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 9 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS — In his two addresses: the pretentious policy statement in Los Angeles on August 26 and in the routine Saturday address on the radio on August 29 President Ronald Reagan mixed up the dismantling of medium- and shorter-range military systems with the dismantling of socio-political systems, Gennadiy Gerasimov points out in the newspaper *"Moscow News"* (issue No 37). The far reaching demands made by the U.S. President on Soviet foreign and home policy reduced to the claim that we should give up our own selves. He even tried to give advice to the Soviets on how they should reorganize their work.

The advise is expressed in the form of political demands, and the President says "the Soviets must", this cannot but cause a reaction of rejection. Since we do not give advice to U.S. Congress how to conduct better the investigation into the Iran-contras affair. [sentence as received] And we do not demand from it laws against unemployment or laws to ensure housing for all, without which human rights in America seem to us to be at least incomplete.

The American observers explain to the Soviet observers that the President is bowing to the right wing of his own Republican Party. Yet Professor Eugene Rostow who was recently a member of U.S. Administration warns in the newspaper *The New York Times* that the President's statement shall not be disregarded as a ritual gesture designed to please the right wing. And if Reagan welcomes the possible agreement but demands a radical change in the so-called "Soviet behaviour", Rostow goes even farther, when saying that even a good agreement cannot be of much use until the USSR gives up its policy of unlimited expansion.

The very characteristic of Soviet policy is false. Therefore the demand for giving up nonexistent policy appears with Rostow as a means of sabotaging a possible agreement in the field of nuclear disarmament, Gennadiy Gerasimov notes.

Matveyev Criticizes U.S. on Trade Limits

PM161431 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 5

["Political Observer's Opinion" by Vikentiy Matveyev: "Who Are They Harming?"]

[Text] With stubbornness worthy of better application, official Washington departments are trying—for the umpteenth time—to curtail the West's economic ties with the Soviet Union. The pretext is the allegations that such ties strengthen the USSR's military potential. It is in this vein that the current campaign of pressuring Western countries' business circles and governments is being conducted overseas.

A few years ago, at the very start of the eighties, essentially the same campaign was launched in the United States on a slightly different pretext. Washington pulled out all the stops to dissuade West European governments and Japan from concluding contracts with the Soviet Union in the power engineering sphere. This, for instance, is what the U.S. journal *Business Week* wrote, with reference to the position of official circles, in its 22 December 1980 issue: "The Soviet Union's aim is to establish its hegemony in Europe. It will be able to achieve this end without a shot being fired and without sending a single soldier beyond its borders if the FRG, France, and America's other European allies continue to persistently propose that the Russians sell them large quantities of natural gas"...

The blackmail did not have the desired effect.

But the initiators of the row did not calm down. In a 13 April 1984 speech in Britain's House of Commons, Liberal member of Parliament Paddy Ashdown stated that the U.S. Government was threatening sanctions against 300 West European companies for, it claimed, "exporting state-of-the-art technical equipment to communist countries."

A layman might think that high-technology exports were a kind of "one-way street" running only from the West to the East. But here is evidence from *U.S. News and World Report*. In its 17 January 1983 issue, the magazine wrote: "In just a single decade U.S. companies have acquired from the Soviet Union and East European countries more than 125 licenses, including licenses for processes and devices such as high-voltage power lines, automatic surgical guns for stitching wounds, the latest welding methods, the casting of aluminum and copper in electromagnetic furnaces, and the underground gasification of coal deposits."

Our country has enormous potential in assimilating the most complex new processes in technology. There is no doubt that in the years to come Soviet science, technology, and industry will be able to step up the pace of work in this sphere irrespective of how political and business circles in the United States behave. We have been able to overcome various "boycotts" abroad in the past—we will be even more able to do so in the future.

But that is just one side of the coin; there is another. It is borne out, for example, by facts such as the increasingly noticeable U.S. lag in the foreign trade sphere behind other major capitalist countries. It was recently announced in Washington that in 1986, for the first time in a long while, the United States was only the second largest exporter among the developed capitalist countries. The FRG took first place. Japan is also catching the United States.

Competition in capitalist markets is getting inexorably tougher. And this leads to political conflict. A recent poll of secondary school students in Japan, reported by the newspaper *Asahi Shimbun*, yielded some curious results. Some 49 percent of those polled believe a war is most likely to break out between the United States and Japan because of the growing trade and economic conflict. That is a telling piece of information about the atmosphere of Japanese-U.S. relations!

A legitimate question arises: Is not the demand made on other capitalist countries to curtail their trade with the Soviet Union a weapon in the competitive struggle for U.S. leaders? The weakening of its rivals' foreign trade positions is a desirable aim for the U.S. Government.

Thus, on 25 August, H. Tamura, Japan's minister of international trade and industry, admitted in parliament that Washington was demanding outright that Tokyo adopt legislation to tighten trading regulations with the Soviet Union.

Clearly, Washington would be very pleased if other Western countries and Japan reduced their trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union to the minimal level represented by U.S. trade with our country. However, it is a fact that, with the sole exception of the most pigheaded figures, few people in the United States are delighted about U.S. business ties with the Soviet Union being on such a small scale. The organizers of such pressure can hardly count on obtaining the results they desire. The logic of life is stronger than any narrow-minded calculations.

Joint U.S. 'People's Diplomats' Meeting Held

PM181255 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 15 Sep 87 p 2

[B. Yunanov report: "Saga of Dynamic Peace"]

[Text] The first Soviet-U.S. meeting of "people's diplomats," which has just ended and united its participants in the desire to learn how to see each other in a new, unprejudiced way, without stereotypes, was unprecedented both in terms of representation and in terms of productivity—the practical return, as it were. Humanitarians from all over America were in Moscow. Several days of direct "roundtable" discussion with Soviet colleagues ended in the signing of an accord on a multitude of specific joint projects ("there are 100 or perhaps 200 of them," Rama Vernon, director of the "Center for Soviet-U.S. Dialogue" and one of the initiators of the meeting, reported during the final plenary session). It took more than 90 minutes for the participants in the work of the "interest groups" to read out the projects. Let us explain briefly the essence of the accords: There is the making of joint artistic-publicistic and documentary movies, the organization of television linkups and movie festivals, the conducting of joint sociological polls, cooperation in the struggle against AIDS, the exchange of computer information, the joint publication of journals and literary anthologies, reciprocal tours by musicians (the celebrated saxophonist Paul Horn held talks on a USSR tour in 1988), and exchanges of schoolchildren.

The ice has been broken. However, let us be realists. "Contact means understanding differences," the French philosopher P. Teilhard de Chardin said. In my view, the Soviet movie director A. Simonov, for example, was right when he remarked that, to begin efficient cooperation, it is necessary to be aware of the dissimilarity in the funding and production structures between the two movie industries, otherwise it will be impossible to avoid mistakes and misunderstandings in work. The same applies to the whole spectrum of bilateral relations.

The "Center for Soviet-U.S. Dialogue," which organized the meeting on the U.S. side, works to promote wider contacts between Soviet and U.S. citizens. Clearly, the effectiveness of its work and the growth of its popularity among the U.S. population largely depend on the position of the U.S. mass media. It was clear from the speeches of several U.S. participants in the seminar that assistance in disseminating its ideas and projects can really be expected only from a small number of noncommercial television stations and publications. But what of the "big press," which usually campaigns for "freedom of exchange among people"?

"Our mass media are mostly conservative. They are in no hurry to debunk stereotypes and are overtly anti-Soviet," Los Angeles producer Lori Sikking [name as transliterated] attested.

Such broad participation in the seminar by representatives of the creative professions and U.S. show business figures who, by their own admission, "previously kept their distance from the problem of organizing relations with the Soviets" reflects a definite shift in U.S. public opinion toward dialogue and cooperation with the USSR. Now even John Lugar, one of the authors of the television lampoon "Amerika," says in Moscow: "For a start, it would be a good thing to make two or three movies together." Les Arnold from California, a Vietnam war veteran, is in charge of a firm that fulfills orders for the U.S. defense industry. On his return he intends to write a number of articles for major publications and to demonstrate, contrary to the hypocritical fabrications of monopolists of the military-industrial complex, that the military business is by no means the only way to develop the economy. "I have come to realize that trust is impossible without disarmament," he said.

Admissions by many Americans attested to the tremendous impact of restructuring and glasnost in the USSR on U.S. public opinion. "I wanted to take a look at your changes, and I have seen them for myself. Soviet people have talked quite freely and frankly with me, a U.S. businessman," Martin Lopeta said.

The "people's diplomats" will soon meet again in the United States, and in considerably greater numbers, according to the universal conviction.

On taking their leave, the Americans presented their Soviet colleagues with a souvenir gift—a stained-glass panel with the unusual title "Saga of Dynamic Peace." The guests explained: Real peace means not just an absence of military conflicts. Real peace is dynamic peace, existing as the unity of all people on the principles of cooperation, harmony, and beauty.

Seminar Considers Cooperation in Arts

LD121045 Moscow TASS in English 0959 GMT 12 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 12 TASS—By TASS correspondent Vladimir Yegorov:

The Soviet-American seminar "On Soviet-American Images—a New Perspective", which was held in Moscow this week, has brought to light broad possibilities for mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of literature, arts and education. The seminar was co-sponsored by the Soviet Peace Committee and the Centre for Soviet-American Dialogue.

What was happening here in the course of five days can be described with good reason as a cultural revolution in the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, said Rama Vernon, director of the American centre. We the sponsors of the meeting have been overwhelmed by the stream of initiatives and proposals on joint activity and joint projects, in whose implementation we see an effective means of overcoming the stereotypes of mutual distrust and enmity which struck deep root in our minds during the years of "cold war".

Some of the proposed projects are already being implemented. Thus American cartoonist Jerry Robinson has signed a contract on the publication of his drawings in Moscow's *Krokodil* comic magazine and the newspaper *Izvestiya*.

In addition to the already existing "Soviet-U.S. initiative" on cooperation in the production of feature films a joint council on documentary films is being set up. The journal *Dialogue* on new political thinking in Soviet-American relations is to be issued in Moscow and Washington.

Sociologists propose holding a mutual public opinion poll on problems of war and peace, radio journalists—to sponsor a daily hourly exchange of current news. Scientists have also had their say: Agreement has been reached to hold a scientific-practical conference in California University on the problem of agricultural production. A dialogue on the problem of AIDS has been proposed.

The delegates to the seminar are prepared to start joint work without delay. On learning about the project of a feature film "Cossacks and Cowboys" Kris Kristofferson immediately offered his services. I would very much like to cooperate with Soviet filmmakers. In addition I am a good horse rider. George Barati, a composer and music director, Paul Horn, a flutist, have expressed preparedness to make guest tours of the USSR.

Officially the programme of cooperation is to be endorsed at the Soviet-American meeting of people's diplomats in New York, in October-November this year, said Igor Filin, vice-chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee.

Astronaut Urges Joint Cooperation in Space

PM151355 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

["IZVESTIYA Interview" with U.S. astronaut Edgar Mitchell by A. Ostalskiy: "Edgar Mitchell: 'I Would Fly With the Russians to the Moon...'"]

[Text] "I miss the moon and would like to go back again." There are only 12 people in the world who really have the right to say that they have walked on the moon. They are all Americans. One of them is 56-year-old Edgar Mitchell. He flew into our country on Sunday to deliver lectures in several cities on "future generations of astronauts." In 1971, as pilot of the "Apollo-14" spacecraft, he walked on the moon twice, spending a total of more than 9 hours on its surface.

The visit by the American astronaut is part of a cooperation program undertaken by the Association of Spaceflight Members. In April this year, Soviet cosmonaut V.

Dzhanibekov gave a series of lectures in the United States. Now E. Mitchell is a guest in the USSR. In a conversation with your correspondent, he described the prospects for Soviet-U.S. cooperation in space exploration as "excellent."

[Ostalskiy] "Is there a possibility of a new joint flight in the future?"

[Mitchell] "Yes, this is quite possible. I believe this could happen in the next 10 years, possibly even earlier."

[Ostalskiy] "Will you be talking about our future cooperation in space exploration in your lectures and conversations with Soviet colleagues?"

[Mitchell] "Yes, but not only about this. I regard my visit to the USSR as a diplomatic effort by an ordinary individual rather than a politician. I very much want to tell Soviet people on behalf of my fellow Americans that we have a great deal in common, a great deal that unites us."

[Ostalskiy] "Konstantin Tsiolkovskiy wrote that man's entry into space could give him 'boundless wealth and immeasurable might,' but now we are concerned that human activity in space could also lead to an unprecedented catastrophe..."

[Mitchell] "If you mean 'Star Wars,' I have no intention of discussing the subject. It is up to the politicians."

[Ostalskiy] "What, in that case, should 'ordinary people' do?"

[Mitchell] "We must, we are simply bound to set an example of cooperation. It is our duty to look for ways to achieve mutual understanding. If we on earth do not learn to conduct a dialogue, misfortune awaits us. As far as the politicians are concerned, I believe they understand the seriousness of the situation, and I wish them success in solving the problems between our countries."

[Ostalskiy] "One last question: Would you like to take part in a joint Soviet-U.S. flight, to the moon, for example?"

[Mitchell] "Oh yes! Younger men and women should be given the opportunity to show their mettle, of course, but if I were given the chance I would very much like to try... It would be simply marvelous to fly to the moon with Russians!"

Resolution on Lithuania 'Provocative'

LD162336 Moscow TASS in English 1732 GMT 16 Sep 87

[Text] Vilnius September 16 TASS — The sole aim of a provocative resolution passed by the House of Representatives of U.S. Congress concerning alleged oppression of the believers in Lithuania is to distract the attention of American public opinion from striking facts of human rights violations in the United States, Vanda Klikune, vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of Lithuania, told a TASS correspondent.

The House of Representatives of U.S. Congress passed a resolution condemning Soviet authorities for allegedly denying the Lithuanians religious freedoms.

The document timed by U.S. legislators for the 600th anniversary of Christianity in Lithuania further alleged that believers in Lithuania were subjected to house searches, interrogations and unfounded arrests.

However, the fact that the right to be free to profess a religion (the right guaranteed by the Soviet Constitution) has been exercised in the Soviet Union is confirmed by the Roman Catholics of Lithuania who took part in a study conducted by the Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Law under the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. The subject of the study was "the believer and freedom of conscience".

The study was carried through to find out how the believers appraised their status in a socialist state and did their views correspond to or disagree with the allegations made by religious extremists.

A substantial part of the questionnaires was distributed among persons who were especially close to the church: chairmen and members of the parish committees. The study covered various regions of the republic: Vilnius, the capital, Kaunas, the second largest city, and eight rural areas. The answers were given anonymously.

91 percent of the respondents answered negatively to the main questions asked: Did the authorities interfere with the performance of religious rites? 95 percent of the respondents said that church buildings were immaculately maintained. 84 percent of the respondents said that they had prayer books published in Soviet Lithuania.

Part of the questions dealt with the status of the believers in society. 77 out of each 100 respondents said that the believers encountered no obstacles at their place of work, and 23 asserted the opposite. Among all the respondents 63 percent were elected to trade union committees, guiding bodies of agricultural cooperatives, and other public organizations. 40 percent of the respondents were recipients of orders, medals and other decorations awarded to them by the Soviet state.

Returning Emigre Criticizes U.S.

LD170933 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Sep 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Interview with Igor Sinyavin, a Russian emigre returning from the U.S., by reporter V. Bakarinov given at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center 16 September—recorded]

[Text][Bakarinov, identified by caption] Just a little over 1 month ago, artist Sinyavin, as if for the first time, stepped onto his native soil, having lived for 11 years in foreign lands. His return began long before that moment; it began over there, abroad in the faraway United States. Today, the man who had lost his homeland and then found it again after tormenting mistakes, delusions, and groundless grievances told his dramatic story to journalists.

You have now been on Soviet soil for 5 weeks. What are your first impressions?

[Sinyavin] My first impressions? The best impression is of the people. The people here are unlike the Americans, even the Europeans, who somehow don't notice that they are living as a common family, some kind of great, enormous family. That kind of thing is not possible there, in the West. Striving for justice, equality, fraternity, peace, moral attitude to life, a sense of duty to the family, the country, the world, that, you know, is not there, you don't feel it. That is something that Russia gives us. Our homeland fulfills a great mission in the world. Was that not so, mankind would lose a holy of holies. There you are. This came to me abroad.

[Bakarinov] Do the people still living there now lose something spiritually by not being able to come back home? Do they strive to come back?

[Sinyavin] Of course, these people lose something. I noticed that for those who have already lost contact with their homeland, with Russia, the most important thing is to buy a house, then to make enough money for a flashy car, to travel somewhere abroad. But behind all that lies a certain spiritual and moral emptiness and poverty. Ethnic Russians are the ones who want to come back the most. Without their homeland they simply, well, they just cannot live. They feel that their forefathers, their entire being is connected with their homeland, and it is in their community that there is the greatest desire to come back.

Constitution Anniversary, Irangate Viewed

Affair Flouts Document

LD181102 Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 18 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 18 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Kikilo reports:

The festivities to mark the 200th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution were held in the United States on Thursday. The centre of the festivities was Philadelphia where delegates of the constitutional convention representing 12 out of the 13 states signed that historic document on September 17, 1787.

Speaking at the celebration, President of the United States Ronald Reagan spared no words to praise the merits of the U.S. Constitution. For that period, the first constitution of the epoch of bourgeois democratic revolutions had a really progressive character.

But over the past two centuries the United States, a revolutionary republic that freed itself from the British rule, has turned into the biggest imperialist power claiming world supremacy, the power that assumed the role of a gendarme of world capitalism to suppress the revolutionary and national liberation struggle of peoples. Suffice it to recall the United States participation in the intervention against young Soviet Russia or the undeclared wars which Washington is waging now against the peoples of Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Angola upholding their independence and revolutionary gains.

Reagan who twice in the past six years took an oath during the inauguration to the Presidency, sworn on the Bible to defend the country's Constitution. [sentence as received] Such is also the nature of his speech in Philadelphia. But the scandalous revelations about "Iran-contra" affair showed that his administration flouted both the American and international law and American legislation, was deceiving the Congress and the public.

According to the President, the Constitution's goal is "the preservation and extension of the sacred fire of human liberty." But as hundreds of activists of the anti-war movement who arrived for the festivities in Philadelphia noted, the policy of the White House runs counter to such declarations. The leaflets that American peace campaigners were handing out during the President's speech contained the call to end the U.S. interference in Central America.

When five members of the group tried to exercise their constitutional rights and hand over to the President a list of names of Philadelphia homeless who died in Philadelphia's streets of hunger and cold, and also the names of persons who became victims of Washington's interventionist policy in Central America, they were arrested by the police.

A public meeting under the slogan "For the 'Bill of Rights' for Workers" was held in Philadelphia before the festivities. The participants in the rally—trade union and public leaders, emphasised that a large-scale onslaught on civil liberties and trade union rights of the working people is conducted in the USA, that discrimination on the basis of race and sex if rife. The third century of the American Constitution must start with hope, said chairman of the local branch of the National Union of Hospital Health Care Employees Henry Nicholas. But too many Americans have no hope for future now. We are tired of the violations of women's rights and working people's rights, said Mollie Yard, chairperson of the National Women's Organization. We are tired of watching how the present administration is crushing trade. We are tired of the government that does not represent the people. And such is precisely the state of things on the 201st year of our Constitution, Mollie Yard said.

'Scandal' Shows 'Decline'

LD170915 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1848 GMT 16 Sep 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan is getting ready to take part in the national ceremony devoted to the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution. The President's speech during the ceremony will be broadcast on television and radio. On the eve of his speech, Reagan has already called the Constitution a document that brought freedom and hope to many millions of people, an act of the greatest political wisdom in history.

Undoubtedly, 200 years ago the U.S. Constitution had enormous progressive significance. After all, that was the first bourgeois-democratic constitution set down on paper in the history of mankind. Many of its tenets sound completely democratic now, too. It was not for nothing that the U.S. Communist Party pointed out that in a socialist system the individual freedoms proclaimed by the Constitution and its amendments would be preserved and extended. Nevertheless, one must not consider the U.S. Constitution to be fundamental law in the precise and full meaning of that term.

I will try to illustrate my claim with the following example. In the text of the Constitution there is not a word about what the structure of the U.S. Government should be, what the ministries and departments are, or how they function. The activities of, say, the NSA, or the CIA, are not stipulated by anybody or anything. They, like many other U.S. governmental bodies, were formed apart from the Constitution. This is what that has led to. Officials of the National Security Agency and the CIA, in violation of the law adopted by Congress, and in secrecy from it and the President himself—although there are grounds for not believing that—sold weapons to Iran and transferred the money gained from that to the Nicaraguan contras. As you well know that scandal was called Irangate. In addition to that, the same group of people, without the knowledge of Congress or the Government, drew up a plan for the temporary halting of the operation of the Constitution in the case of a state of emergency in the country. That group prepared to set up an organization outside the United States to carry out secret operations, which neither the Defense Department nor the State Department knew anything about.

Is it not true that all this is very like an antistate plot? The U.S. newspaper *Miami Herald* wrote with full justification: Some of President Reagan's high-ranking advisers were acting virtually as a parallel government, outside the traditional ministries and departments.

Yesterday, Voice of America offered its microphone to an emigre from the USSR, who said with delight—he was evidently well paid—the U.S. Constitution is unique in the sense that it does not allow the concentration of unlimited power in the hands of one person or a group of people. If that emigre has still not learned the English language and could not understand either the television reports from Congress during the Irangate hearings or the newspaper articles on that affair, then the Russian-speaking workers in the Voice of America probably should have told their unestablished author who Oliver North is and what he did to his own bosses. North and his group indeed concentrated in their hands secret and, moreover, considerable power and used it against the interests of the United States and the American people. That was possible thanks to the decline of the Constitution, about which Reagan spoke grandiloquently but, in light of Irangate, to say the least, inaccurately. For two centuries the Constitution has been reliably protecting the foundations of U.S. democracy.

Congressmen Pay Visit to Kiev 11 Sep

AU141245 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 12 Sep 87 p 3

[RATAU report: "Kiev Hosts U. S. Parliamentarians"]

[Text]On 11 September, Academician P. G. Kostyuk, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairman, received a group of senators and members of the House of Representatives from Pennsylvania (United States of America). During conversation, the guests were briefed on the activity of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and of local people's sovereign bodies. The growing role of the soviets of people's deputies under the conditions of restructuring the country's political and economic life was emphasized. Questions concerning improvements in the electoral system and the further democratization of society were touched upon.

Having inquired about the accomplishment of a number of tasks, including ecological tasks, the U.S. senators pointed out that there were many conditions for mutually beneficial cooperation in these spheres, and for promoting commercial relations with the Soviet side, and this in turn would help strengthen confidence and mutual understanding.

Participating in the conversation were Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Deputies V. I. Zaychuk, L. V. Lavrukhin, D. G. Nedashkovskiy, and other officials.

The American visitors held talks with the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. They toured the historical and cultural monuments of the Ukraine's capital city.

Senator Cranston Discusses Visit, Talks

PM111315 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No. 35, 30 Aug 87 (Sig Press 25 Aug 87) p 5

[Interview with Senator Alan Cranston, Senate deputy majority leader, with observer Eduard Khamidulin under the rubric "From Our Correspondent": "Lack of Understanding Is Dangerous. Importance of Contacts Between the Military"—first paragraph is MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI introduction; no place or date of interview specified]

[Text] Alan Cranston, Senate deputy majority leader, who visited our country last week at the invitation of the USSR parliamentary group, is one of the few U.S. politicians who has had the chance to speak twice, in great detail, with outstanding Soviet military men. The first time was before restructuring, and the second now. What has our guest learned from these meetings? Our observer Eduard Khamidulin met the senator.

[Khamidulin] As far as I can understand, you are interested in the real meaning of the changes taking place in our country.

[Cranston] Yes. I am inspired by what I have seen and heard, and I am deeply interested in the new Soviet leadership, in the new thinking, in everything these new developments could mean for the USSR and U.S. peoples. I hope that we will score more progress than before in relations with the new Soviet leadership. I also assume that the U.S. Administration will take the appropriate steps in this direction.

[Khamidulin] I think that your meeting with Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev and General Nikolay Chervov was a real indicator of the changes in our country. After all, contacts like these are a rare phenomenon. What are your impressions of the conversations you had?

[Cranston] Well, in fact this is not all that new for me. I already had an equally detailed and interesting conversation with Marshal Nikolay Ogarkov in 1981. Of course, I grabbed the opportunity to meet Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev in the course of this visit. Both Soviet military figures were frank, polite, and direct in the discussions, which mainly centered on the arms control problem.

I posed a delicate question to them both, first to Ogarkov, and now to Akhromeyev: "If, God forbid, a nuclear war were to break out between us, a war which no one wants and no one intends to launch but which could be sparked by, say, a miscalculation or some other accident, would anyone be capable of winning it?" Ogarkov replied in three words: "No, mutual suicide." Akhromeyev said something along these lines, but somewhat differently phrased: "No one will be left to win it."

[Khamidulin] Therefore, the main topic of the conversation was how to prevent this? What was discussed this time?

[Cranston] We were mainly interested in the following: What must we do to improve U.S.-Soviet relations? What are the barriers to agreement on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles in Europe? How do we eliminate the differences in the sides' positions on the question of Pershings in the FRG, monitoring the observance of the agreement, and so on?

I asked my Soviet interlocutors about the meaning of the Soviet Union's new formula: "Reasonable sufficiency of military forces for defense." What is its real meaning? I assume it means that we have come to understand the need for arms reductions, since both you and we have more weapons than we need. It is important in the first place to define what would be sufficient for our and your defense so that we do not waste more funds than is necessary and you will be able to ensure your defense at lower cost.

[Khamidulin]During your conversation with Marshal Akhromeyev, you probably discovered not only differences in positions but also mutual understanding.

[Cranston] The main point of agreement is that we are facing the threat of a nuclear war and we must avoid it. We also have a common problem in how to reduce the superexpenditure on arms, which affects both our and your economy. We are both interested in stable peace and in ensuring conditions to this end. We share the need to develop mutual understanding in the complex situations the world encounters and to avoid miscalculations due to lack of proper information. It would be remarkable if the leaders of the U.S. and USSR Armed Forces general staffs were to meet every 6 months to achieve mutual understanding and avoid the danger of mistake through lack of understanding. Lack of understanding is dangerous.

Business Delegation Arrives 17 Sep

LD172021 Moscow TASS in English 1947 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 17 TASS—A delegation of the United States business quarters arrived in the Soviet Union on a visit today to discuss matters connected with preparations for the 11th annual meeting of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council (ASTEC), to be held in Moscow next December.

The U.S. delegation includes ASTEC President James Giffen and the leaders of a number of major U.S. companies.

The American businessmen will hold negotiations at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade, foreign trade associations and branch ministries and discuss with them prospects for the development of new forms of cooperation between Soviet organisations and U.S. companies.

Dobrynin Meets With U.S. CP Leader Hall

LD201446 Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 20 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 20 TASS—Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met on Saturday with Gus Hall, general secretary of the Communist Party of the USA.

Gus Hall requested that cordial gratitude be extended to Mikhail Gorbachev for the warm comradely congratulations on Gus Hall's reelection as general secretary of the Communist Party of the United States at the recent convention of the American Communists.

In the course of the meeting a detailed exchange of views was held on the fundamental issues of the present-day international situation and the current stage in the development of Soviet-American relations.

Gus Hall welcomed the agreement reached on a Soviet-American summit meeting and evaluated it as a victory for the Soviet Union's peaceable policy of initiative based on the philosophy of new political thinking. He touched in detail upon the key aspects of the political situation in the USA, stressing that the wish for a deepening of mutual understanding with the Soviet Union, for establishing stable relations of peace and cooperation between the USA and the USSR is ever more strengthening among the American people.

Gus Hall spoke of the results of the recent 24th national convention of the Communist Party of the USA and wished, on behalf of the American Communists, the CPSU and the Soviet people successful advancement on the path charted, which will make it possible to reveal in full the whole peaceable and humanistic potential of socialism.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality and profound mutual understanding characteristic of the fraternal relations between the CPSU and the Communist Party of the USA.

CIA 'Covertly' Controls Radio Stations

PM111313 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Sep 87 p 3

[S. Denisov "Rejoinder": "Glasnost... From Someone Else's Lips"]

[Text] Judging by foreign press reports, the processes occurring in the Soviet Union generate sincere interest in Western countries. There are, however, some — if I may use the word — figures who try to claim the role of "controllers" of the glasnost being applied in the USSR. One could easily class *The Washington Post's* observer James Kilpatrick as one such figure.

The journalist in question asks: "Will the cold war be extinguished?" And replies: "No." Why? Simply because, he says, the Soviet Union has stepped up its jamming of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe broadcasts.

Developing his idea, J. Kilpatrick confidently declares that both these radio stations are "independent organizations"... financed by the U.S. Government and that they broadcast news and comment to the Soviet Union for only 439 hours a week.

"These are genuine channels of freedom!" the U.S. journalist exclaims, "backing" his claim by the fact that the central offices of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe "employ" 1,000 staffers, "many of whom are emigres."

"Moscow detests these radio stations," Kilpatrick grieves. This is not all. Moscow is afraid of them, he adds. And yet, these radio stations present the facts strictly and dispassionately, and engage in absolutely no interference in the USSR's internal affairs, the U.S. journalist believes. How can the "caustic editorial comments in support of dissidents," which are almost incessantly poured out by these "voices," be seen as interference in internal affairs, Kilpatrick asks in puzzlement.

Be that as it may, one must help the U.S. journalist find an answer to his numerous questions. As for evidence, let us turn to an article carried by the very same *Washington Post* in July 1986.

At that time, *The Washington Post* cited the opinion of many Radio Liberty staffers, that much younger at the time, that the compilation of programs "with an antidemocratic tendency" expanded on "a broader scale" under the Reagan administration since the radio station leadership assessed radio programs exclusively according to the criterion of their capacity to... "undermine the Soviet system." Any comment, Mr Kilpatrick?

To continue, *The Washington Post* wrote at that time that, according to claims by several Radio Liberty staffers and outside specialists, "right-wing Russian emigres, taking advantage of the Reagan administration's uncompromising views on communism, brought to Radio Liberty programs overtones of anti-Semitism, arrant Russian nationalism, and antidemocratic sentiments."

One final fact: The very same *Washington Post* wrote a year ago that Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty are hindered in their struggle to gain prestige among audiences by the Russians' constant reminders that they are creatures of the CIA operating in the spirit of the "cold war."

It has to be admitted that Washington has drawn its conclusions and... intensified the "camouflage." The U.S. Congress fused the two autonomous radio stations into one "noncommercial" corporation with American administrative staff and subordinate to the Board for International Broadcasting whose members are appointed by the President "but are not under official control."

We will not engage in polemics as regards the obvious clumsiness of such "formulations." We will just refer to numerous items published by U.S. newspapers and journals themselves and to testimony by former Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe staffers to the effect that the CIA continues to control these radio stations, but already "covertly."

It seems that we have answered the questions that are of the greatest concern for Mr J. Kilpatrick

U.S. Action in Gulf Reported

Ship Hits Minesweeper

LD121208 Moscow TASS in English 1132 GMT 12 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 12 TASS—One of U.S. mine sweepers, the *Conquest*, heading for the Persian Gulf collided with another American warship on the high seas, reported the UPI news agency referring to U.S. naval sources. The incident took place 1,200 miles southwest of the Hawaii islands. As a result of the collision, a hole some five metres long was made on the ship's hull about a metre above the waterline.

The *Conquest* accompanied by a repair mother ship will return to its base. Two other vessels of the Esteem and Enhance class sailed off to the U.S. Naval Base Subic

Bay on the Philippines wherefrom they will proceed to the Persian Gulf area. Another group of three mine sweepers which sailed out of ports on the U.S. east coast, are also heading in the same direction. They will join the large naval force the Pentagon massed in that explosive area.

'Attack Jet' Crashes

LD190925 Moscow TASS in English 0903 GMT 19 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 19 TASS—A U.S. Navy A-6E "Intruder" attack jet on a routine night training mission has crashed in the Persian Gulf.

A crew of four were most probably killed, said a Pentagon representative.

Search and rescue operations were under way after the incident.

The "Intruder" was assigned to the U.S. aircraft carrier *USS Ranger,* involved in operations of convoying reflagged Kuwaiti tankers through the Persian Gulf.

PRAVDA on Plans

PM171135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Tension Continues"]

[Text] Washington, 16 Sep—U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger held a briefing in Congress Tuesday on the question of the progress of U.S. Navy military operations in the Persian Gulf. Pentagon Spokesman Robert Sims reported that Weinberger had made a "detailed overview of intelligence information and a generalized evaluation of the progress of U.S. naval operations in accompanying Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag." According to him, there are currently 23 ships flying the American flag. The Pentagon spokesman noted with satisfaction the "growing presence of U.S. allies in the region," adding that Washington is striving for "growing cooperation from the Gulf countries." As Sims stressed, U.S. military presence in the region "will last for a long time."

AP reported, citing government sources, that the Pentagon plans to create a new command to lead the U.S. Navy in the Gulf by 20 September. Currently, the agency explained, leadership of U.S. Navy groupings in the Gulf and in the northern part of the Arabian Sea is carried out by various commands under the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. The new unified U.S. Armed Forces command in the Near East will be headed by Admiral Dennis Brooks. His flagship will be the nuclear-powered cruiser *"Long Beach."*

At the same time, AP reports, the Pentagon intends to reach agreement with U.S. allies on dividing up zones of responsibility for minesweeping operations in the Gulf. Currently, the agency notes, three French minesweepers have started minesweeping in the Gulf of Oman. Four British minesweepers arrived in the region Tuesday. They will soon be joined by Italian, Belgian, and Netherlands naval vessels. According to AP, there are no plans as yet to set up a joint allied command or to work out an official international agreement, but each ship will have its own specific task.

"U.S. warships have been a kind of political stick that has drawn the attention not only of Iran but of U.S. European allies and the Arabian Gulf countries to U.S. power," *The Washington Post* wrote. But these achievements are temporary and fragile. It would be a dangerous mistake to take them as indicating continued cooperation or tractability. The reality is that the United States is more isolated in the Persian Gulf than it seems. Five European countries agreed to send their warships to the Gulf only as a result of Washington's intense diplomatic pressure. The pressure worked.

Chigir Comments on U.S., Nicaragua

Attempts To 'Bury' Plan

LD141639 Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 14 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 14 TASS—TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir writes:

The Washington administration has launched a broad offensive on the forces that declare for a peaceful settlement in Central America. And that offensive is directed against Central American countries that adopted in Guatemala a joint declaration on the ways of establishing a durable and lasting peace in the region and also against legislators and broad public circles in the USA that demand an end to Washington's policy of aggression against Nicaragua. President Reagan himself is at the head of this veritable crusade against peace in Central America. And simultaneously he is stirring up an ever more unbridled anti-Nicaraguan campaign whose main purpose is to compel the Congress to appropriate another 270 million dollars for the military backing of contra gangs.

The request for appropriation of those funds by the Congress for which Reagan and his team are now trying to create a favourable atmosphere is not just another budgetary request. It bespeaks of Washington's intention to bury the arrangements on the roads to peace in Central America, reached in Guatemala, to widen and step up contras' aggressive terroristic actions aimed at overthrowing the Sandinist government. As Senator Alan Cranston aptly put it, the Reagan administration talks about peace, while financing war. This course confirms the adherence of the Washington administration as a whole and of the chief of the White House in particular, to the Irangate course.

As is known, the administration's representatives made a lot of attempts to dissociate themselves from that scandal. Public opinion polls showed that as a result of that scandal, there is no longer faith in the Washington leadership in the USA. But the representatives of the administration cannot absolve themselves of the responsibility for the unsavoury illegal activity during the implementation of the Iran-contra operation. The congressional hearings on the affair, materials in the press, and the present actions of the administration, including its attempts to railroad the 270-million dollar appropriations for contras, confirm the testimony of the late CIA Director William Casey that in the Irangate operation the Washington top echelon, that is the White House, the National Security Council, the CIA, the State Department, acted as a team.

The Washington Post wrote that that team showed disregard for the Congress, the people, legality, normal procedure of the government's activity and diplomacy. During the Irangate operation, President Reagan and other officials took a broad range of actions that were an obvious violation of the Boland Amendment that prohibited the granting of U.S. aid to contras. They were systematically violating also the standard practice for secret operations, adopted legislatively following scandalous revelations about the CIA's activity in mid-seventies. Other U.S. laws were also flouted by Washington.

The Reagan administration, as its anti-Nicaraguan course, including the Irangate affair, shows eloquently, does not regard itself to be obliged to observe laws of the USA and even international law, provisions of the United Nations Charter and other international organizations. It grossly flouts them, acting cynically under the principle that the aim justifies the means.

Sees 'Aggressive Policy'

LD120927 Moscow TASS in English 0843 GMT 12 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 12 TASS—Follows commentary by Nikolay Chigir, a TASS political news analyst:

Speaking at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz officially announced the administration's intention to request from Congress another 270 million dollars for support for the hired contra gangs. This is added proof of the intention of the United States to carry on its aggressive policy vis-a-vis Nicaragua in an attempt to overthrow the Sandinist government. Washington's decision is a crude and cynical challenge thrown to the world community. Above all to the countries of Central and the whole of Latin America which make great efforts for a political settlement of conflict situations in the Central American region.

The White House and its foreign policy department, as is seen from the statement by George Shultz, have embarked on open sabotage of the accords on ways towards durable peace in Central America, which were reached at the meeting in Guatemala early in August of the presidents of five countries of the region. It is noteworthy that the statement by the U.S. secretary of state, which is tantamount to Washington's confirmation of its commitment to power politics and impudent interference in Central America, has been made at a time when the countries of the region have started implementing the Guatemala agreements. Thus national reconciliation commissions have already been set up and begin functioning in Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. Besides the Nicaraguan Government has taken a number of other steps to implement the peace plan drawn up by the five presidents.

Yet this course of developments, as we can see, by no means suits the book of the American leaders who are banking on a military settlement of the Central American problems in accordance with their neoglobalist policy. Therefore Washington rejects the sovereign will of those countries, expresses open disregard for their legitimate right to take independent foreign policy decisions.

One cannot help asking why it is precisely George Shultz who was instructed to launch a campaign in an attempt to convince the law-makers of the need for a further broadening of military aid to the bandit contra detachments? The point is that as a result of the "Irangate" scandal nobody in Congress and in the U.S. public circles has faith in any of the leading figures of the Reagan administration.

But Shultz after he dissociated himself from "Irangate", at any rate from the Iranian part of that disgraceful affair, as *The New York Times* said, gained a reputation of common sense and frankness incarnate in an environment of foolishness and deception.

And yet the point is not this, and not only this. George Shultz is the same inveterate proponent of interventionist policy of the USA in Central America as is the whole administration. It must be noted, for that matter, that he took direct, personal part in the unlawful financing of the contras. The newspaper *The Los Angeles Times* noted late last year that as the officials of the administration reported, last summer U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz convinced the sultan of Brunei, an oil rich Asian nation, to donate several million dollars to the Nicaraguan contra fund. This money was transferred to the account of a Swiss bank, which was controled by Colonel Oliver North.

Touching upon the details of the solicitations by the U.S. secretary of state for the contras, the newspaper said that Shultz turned to Brunei's crown ruler Muda Hassanal Bolkiah and even paid a three-hour visit to that country, where he called at the sultan's palace of 1,788 rooms built of marble and mahogany. The sultan, as the newspaper said, agreed to assist the Nicaraguan contras and then he was given the number of a secret account in the Swiss bank, information about which was turned over to the State Department by Oliver North.

As is seen from the Reagan administration's practical deeds, including its anti-Nicaraguan actions, it continues to carry on the policy pursued before and at the height of the "Irangate scandal" both in Central America and in other parts of the world today.

'Negative Response' to PLO Closing

LD171734 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 17 TASS—By a TASS diplomatic correspondent:

The U.S. decision to close down the PLO Information Office evoked a broad negative response in the world. The League of Arab States denounced the U.S. move.

Such actions taken by Washington are at a basic variance with its broadly-advertized stand in defense of human rights. For when it comes to the Palestinians who are discriminated against—and that's a fact that causes no doubt—Washington sticks to the same policy of discrimination, defending its own and Israeli selfish interests in the Middle East region.

This is a patent example of a double standard—on the one hand, general, and more often than not, demagogic statements concerning human rights, and on the other, the policy of genocide with respect to an entire people.

The PLO Information Office was registered in the U.S. and operated in compliance with American law. Therefore, there are no grounds for maintaining that it was closed for some formal reasons. The office, as Clovis Maksoud, the representative of the League of Arab States at the United Nations said, was telling Americans the truth about the tragic plight of the Arab people of Palestine.

This is the true reason behind the hostile gesture made by the U.S.

Unfounded accusations of "international terrorism" levelled by Washington many times at Arab leaders, organizations and even entire states were used in the U.S. once gain.

However, such accusations sound strange, to say the least, after public opinion had learnt scandalous details of "Irangate"—an operation designed to organize aggressive actions against sovereign Nicaragua.

It is believed in Moscow's diplomatic circles that the U.S. decision to close down the PLO Information Office took on a special meaning these days against the background of the just-started 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly. By the way, the session is to discuss as one of the items on its agenda the issue of ways for achieving a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East.

The road to such a settlement, as repeatedly stressed in the documents of the League of Arab States, the Islamic Conference Organization, the Nonaligned Movement as well as United Nations, lies through the solution of the key problem of the Middle East settlement—the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination and the establishment of its own independent state.

Golts Comments on KAL 'Spy Mission'

PM150831 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Sep 87 First Edition p 3

[A. Golts "Rejoinder": "Like Driving People Onto Minefields..."]

[Text] The criminal may also be among those who mourn the victim of crime. Moreover, a murderer often sobs louder than anyone else. You remember this every time that people in Washington begin to express with moans and hysteria grief for the passengers on the South Korean Boeing 747 airliner. As is well known, 4 years ago, on 1 September 1983, it was shot down when it had violated the Soviet border and was performing a spying mission over the USSR's territory. Now U.S. reactionary circles are using this day to stage all sorts of anti-Soviet orgies.

However, those who weep crocodile tears probably include many of the people genuinely responsible for the destruction of the Boeing and its passengers. Many sober people in the West have now realized this, for as one prominent American said, you cannot fool everyone all of the time. Therefore, more and more publications are appearing in Japan, Britain, and the United States itself whose authors independently reach the same conclusion: the flight of the South Korean airliner was an important element in a large-scale intelligence operation. This was eleborated and organized by the special services—the CIA and the NSA. This is also illustrated by the fact that extremely considerable forces and means were used: reconnaissance planes, ground stations, and even spy satellites.

The U.S. special services quite deliberately assigned the main task in this spy mission to the passenger plane. The calculation was highly cynical. If the crew performed its mission, the Pentagon would receive important intelligence data about the Soviet Armed Forces. If the Boeing was shot down, it would provide an excuse for an anti-Soviet campaign.

Let us recall when this provocation was launched: at the exact moment when Washington was completing its preparations to deploy its medium-range missiles in Europe; just when the U.S. Administration, inspired with the idea of "Star Wars" and with hopes of achieving superiority, was seeking proof that the USSR was "violating" the ABM Treaty; at a time when, clearly, plans for military adventures like the seizure of Grenada, which took place the month after the spy action, were being hatched. Washington also tried to discredit the Soviet Union in the eyes of U.S. and world public opinion, distract the peoples' attention from our peace initiatives, and present the USSR as an "empire of evil" to successfully implement these militarist schemes.

That is why the U.S. special services sent a passenger plane on a spy flight, making people the hostages of their provocation. They behaved just like those who drove peaceful inhabitants onto minefields.

PRAVDA Eyes Mood at Chautauqua Meeting

PM111053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Sukhoy dispatch: "The Light and Shadows of Chautauqua"]

[Excerpts] Chautauqua, New York, September — The word "Chautauqua" appeared in the political chronicle of Soviet-U.S. relations in 1985. Then a small group of Soviet people, specialists on the United States, arrived in this resort town in southwest New York to discuss topical questions of relations between our two countries with their U.S. colleagues. As a result of this meeting of modest proportions, both sides expressed a desire to continue the dialogue.

A year later, in September 1986, the second meeting was held not far from Riga, the capital of Latvia, in Yurmala. Then the Latvian resort received nearly 200 U.S. guests. On their departure, they invited Soviet people to visit Chautauqua the following summer. So on 23 August a representative group of Soviet people, a total of approximately 250 people, are in the town given its name by the native inhabitants of these places, the Indians. It is here that the Chautauqua Institute is located, which was the initiator of the meetings between representatives of U.S. and Soviet public opinion. [passage omitted].

The 6 days in Chautauqua, during which the 3d conference on topical issues of U.S.-Soviet relations took place, were varied. There were highs when it seemed that there was nothing between our peoples to separate them, and there were lows when our relations appeared in quite a different light—not rosy-hued but uneasy. At one of these moments, an American, no longer in his first youth, who has quite lost his cool, said to me: "I know what the problem is: As yet we cannot trust you, nor you us."

The conference began with the emissaries from Soviet soil being given an unusually warm reception. The inhabitants of the town and the surrounding populated areas literally jammed the central square, the "Bestor Plaza," where buses had arrived with the Soviet delegates. Many people were asking how to say "hello" and "welcome" in Russian. Homemade posters were raised above the crowd. One particularly stuck in my mind: "Welcome, brothers!"

After a short official ceremony, the representatives of the Soviet people were "sorted out" by Americans, who expressed a desire to have them as guests for a week in their homes. All Chautauqua — the narrow, short alleyways paved with flagstones, the wooden houses, built in the old Victorian style, the creaky rickety verandas — was filled with a bilingual hubbub.

The first day went by on this benevolent note. Although, in mentioning the historical and psychological aspects of Soviet-U.S. relations, USIA coordinator G. Guroff still could not refrain from unfounded attacks ("Soviet people cannot travel freely within and outside the country," "the USSR tried to come to an arrangement with Hitler behind the back of the United States," and so on), on the whole the debate proceeded correctly without propagandist emotion.

A negative note was struck by the speech of a senior associate of the National Security Council, Fritz Ermart [name as transliterated]. His speech contained a range of hackneyed accusations against our country of "occupying" Afghanistan, stepping up tension in the Persian Gulf and in Central America, and "foisting communist ideology on other countries" This was, as it were, a prelude to the tone and content of the speech by U.S. President R. Reagan, addressed to the participants in the meeting in Chautauqua. The address by the head of the White House was transmitted by satellite link from California and appeared on a huge screen. As soon as he mentioned Chautauqua, the President essentially said nothing about this meeting, engaging in rhetorical exercises on the theme of totalitarianism, human rights in the USSR, and so on. The following fact indicates the U.S. audience's reaction: When discussing the speech one elderly American lady came up to the microphone and stated: "I am not at all disappointed because I didn't expect anything else from him. But the 'spirit of Chautauqua' must not depend on the tone of one single speech, even if it is a speech by the President of the United States of America." "Roundtables" were in operation at the Chautauqua conference on various problems of U.S.-Soviet relations. The discussions were very heated, but general opinion was as one: They were useful and productive. All the meetings' functions took place in the presence of a large crowd of people. The plenary sessions, which were held in the mornings in the summer amphitheatre, were attended as a rule by 5-6,000 people. All the seats were also filled during the "roundtable" sessions. Numerous debates about what divides us and what unites us, ended on the whole in the same way—by voicing a far from original thought: We have much in common, but we have too little knowledge of each other. Senator Bill Bradley from New Jersey spoke about his trip to Lake Baykal and of how he stood by the lake with the Soviet writer Valentin Rasputin and heard the "beating of the heart of our time." "At that minute, I felt," the senator said, "that both we Americans, and you Russians derive a life affirming force from the earth we both love immeasurably."

Bill Bradley's speech was heard with tremendous interest. The address to the meeting's participants by New York Governor Mario Cuomo was very benevolent. His speech contained a whole series of realistic evaluations and sensible ideas. The joint address by the Soviet scientist, B. Zhurkin, and the well known U.S. specialist on the Soviet Union, M. Shulman, was rich in content and interesting.

During one of the intermissions I had a chat with Marshall Shulman.

"This type of conference," he said, "serves to reflect public sentiments in both countries. Besides there is always the possibility that the approaches to basic problems of U.S.-Soviet relations, which are being elaborated in the course of the discussions between the representatives of the people, may become the basic avenues in states' policy in the future. The more often this happens, the less tense relations between the USSR and the United States will be, and the wider the scope for developing mutually advantageous cooperation between our countries. The improvement in relations between the United States and the USSR is a logical imperative of the time. Since both sides are interested in this, I hope that they will prove equal to the situation and will conduct their policy in accordance with this imperative.

On 26 August, U.S. and Soviet participants in the conference carried out a joint demonstration in defense of peace. The pamphlet disseminated on the eve of the demonstration said that the demonstrators—men and women, young and old—will walk around Chautauqua's central square with candles in their hands to illuminate the darkness. I thought then that the aim of the meetings between the representatives of the two countries' people is approximately as follows: To illuminate Soviet-U.S. relations with the light of truth, realism, and benevolence. A difficult task. But while such candles burn, there will be a greater opportunity to look at one another more intently. Who knows? Maybe Chautauqua is the germ of future Soviet-U.S. relations.

Joint Canadian Consultations Held 16 Sep

PM181350 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Consultations at the USSR Foreign Ministry"]

[Text] Soviet-Canadian consultations on the situation in Latin America and the region's current problems were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry 16 September. Particular attention was devoted to the situation in Central America and the need to promote efforts being made to secure a political settlement there.

A talk took place between USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.G. Komplektov, Canadian Deputy Foreign Minister M. Bell, and Dzh. Grekhem [as transliterated], chief of the Central American and Caribbean countries directorate, with the participation of V.G. Turner, Canadian ambassador to the USSR.

China

Moscow TV Carries 'Meeting With China'

OW041245 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0915 GMT on 28 August carries the 60-minute documentary film "Meeting With China" presented and narrated by Valeriy Korzin, Soviet television political observer. The documentary begins with shots of an unidentified Chinese man visiting a Soviet trade and industry exhibition in Beijing who noted in Russian that he has come to see for himself the "brilliant successes achieved by Soviet friends in the construction of socialism under the CPSU leadership." As video shows the opening ceremony and ribbon cutting at the exhibition, Korzin notes that it was the first in many years: "A meeting after decades, and a unique window into our country for thousands of Chinese. They were once again discovering the Soviet Union while we looked into their faces and also tried to understand them, our neighbors."

Video cuts to show street scenes in Beijing, monuments and temples, and the "Forbidden City" as Korzin talks about the ages-old traditions of the Chinese and how the old has blended with the new in Beijing.

After showing the Temple of Heaven and the Whispering Wall, the video cuts back to the Soviet trade and industry exhibition where Korzin is shown interviewing several Russian-speaking Chinese visitors. Two young men and an older man dressed in worker's garb stress the need for understanding between "the two great socialist states," the need for efforts to improve relations, and a desire to develop friendship.

The video then cuts to show the ancient observatory in Beijing as Korzin compares old and new developments. Video shows high-rise hotels as well as single-story hovels as Korzin notes that many still live in old quarters. "Every fifth Beijing resident still has less than 4 square meters of housing," he says, but adds that many apartments are being built. "The Chinese Government is paying special attention to solving the housing issue. In the next 5-year plan it is envisaged that more than 650 million square meters of housing will be built in the country. It is estimated that about 100 new cities will appear in China."

The documentary then takes the viewer on a tour of narrow streets lined by ramshackle brick houses with people, cars, and carts vying for passage. Korzin comments that "in the stream of automobile traffic we sometimes noticed our Zhigulis and volgas; however, most of the cars were Japanese. But what struck one the most was the innumerable bicycles." Korzin adds that "the Chinese automobile industry is restructuring fundamentally so that by the year 2000 it will produce 2 million cars, or about 5 times more than at present." After showing more street traffic, Korzin takes the viewer into the Beijing subway where he notes similarities with Soviet stations. However, he points out that one difference is the great number of advertising boards.

Korzin then philosophizes about the character of the Chinese people as video shows faces in crowded streets and a Confucian monk praying at a temple. Video cuts to show monochrome documentary footage of a group of Chinese men running in formation. Korzin notes that a stereotype of the Chinese people developed in the not too distant past "and not without foundation. They dressed identically, thought identically, worked on command, and lived that way, like these people in this chronicle of the period. It really was like this, but this in no way reflected the Chinese character. Even one's first contacts with the country convince him that any cliches applied to this great nation have no basis in fact."

Video shows more people and historic buildings as Korzin talks about the sense of harmony intrinstic to the Chinese. Video shows an old Taoist temple and a monk who describes the excesses of the Cultural Revolution. Korzin says that "the temple has now been restored and renewed, and what is important is that much of the funding for this was provided by the state." The video moves on to show a display of porcelain vases and other artifacts which Korzin says the Chinese cherish but also make into an item of trade with tourists for much needed foreign currency. As video shows scrolls of brush paintings Korzin notes that they too are awaiting foreign buyers. "Prices are such that they are really beyond one's means," he says, adding that "love of beauty goes hand in hand with harsh practicality."

Video abruptly cuts to show a man operating an ancient sewing machine in the streets surrounded by various vendors and tradesmen. Korzin notes the industrious and innovative spirit of the Chinese and says that this trait must be considered when assessing prospects for China's development. Video shows crowds eating and drinking at sidewalk stalls as Korzin notes the importance of tea exports. He then changes the topic to the population issue as more street activities are shown; he notes that the ideal family should have only one child and adds that primarily the country remains agrarian and that rural family planning has not been as successful as in urban areas.

Video again cuts to show Korzin speaking to people at the Soviet trade and industry exhibition in Beijing. A Russian-speaking man talks about the development of ties with resources-rich Heilongjiang Province which he notes is rapidly developing.

Video cuts to show monochrome documentary films showing primitive agricultural work methods used in China's recent past over which Korzin says: "The policy of leveling wages and the common pot policy pursued in the country smothered any initiative in its cradle and led to a situation where food was scarcely sufficient to provide the strictly rationed 1 coup of rice a day."

Video changes from the monochrome documentary film to shots of a colorful market with numerous stalls bearing an abundance of vegetables. Korzin says: "It is hard to say there is an abundance today, but the situation really has changed. We were shown one of the city markets as confirmation of the fact that China, for the first time in many years, is able to feed itself. The market is an inalienable component of the agricultural reforms underway in the country. Everything you see in the stalls was grown not at communes but on individual peasant holdings. They have now become the basic economic unit, a kind of household family contract. The peasant decides for himself what to grow and in what quantity on the rented land. Part of the produce is delivered to the state in accordance with contracts, and the remainder is sold at such free markets, as they are called."

Korzin notes that the peasants are free to set prices, which has led to price hikes for some goods. Video then shows a railway station and railroad traffic on the Beijing-Tianjin line, with Korzin noting the lack of electric traction. He adds: "This is another reminder that China is faced with a difficult and long path to the summits of technical progress." As video shows scenes inside a passenger car and cultivated land along the line, Korzin notes that the plots are small by Soviet standards. He says that "95 percent of the country's peasants have already changed to household contracts. Each of them has his own plot of land rented for 15 years and his own equipment, and it should be noted that two-thirds of all tractors are now in private use."

Video cuts to activities in the village of Datianzhuang near Tianjin, to which Korzin's party was invited. He outlines the progress achieved in the past 7 years since it has been part of an agricultural commune. The screen shows numerous cars, building construction, and livestock farms. Korzin points out: "Changes began here, like elsewhere in the country, after the December 1978 CPC Central Committee plenary session which supported the production responsibility system for profits or losses. The effectiveness of this measure is attested to by the fact that the average yield of grain corps in China increased by 30 percent.

"If previously everybody in the village of Datianzhuang was engaged in land cultivation, presently only 35 people are doing this. The number of people engaged in animal husbandry is equally small. This kind of sharp increase in the productivity of rural labor seems incredible, but there are no miracles in economics. It is simply the fact that people who previously simply served time in labor have begun to work for themselves. A real material interest in affairs has appeared and a direct link has been established—the better you work, the better you live."

After showing people engaged in farming, video shows groups of men in blue worker's grab milling about a building. Korzin adds that the reforms have also led to some unemployment. He then outlines the development of industrial facilities in the rural area as video shows the production of electrical circuit breakers, a printing shop producing glossy calenders, and a glassblowing factory. Korzin notes that this production satisfies demand and absorbs much of the released rural labor force.

After a tour of what the village authorities presented as a typical peasant residence and shots of domestic life, Korzin says that "the difference between poverty and riches is increasing and the government is actively supporting and promoting families which have a high level of sufficiency. They are known as those who become rich before others, and are considered to be an example for others of industriousness, a thrifty attitude toward the land, peasant astuteness, and practical forethought." Korzin adds that it is presumed that others will become equally wealthy.

As video shows farmland in the countryside, Korzin notes that such small peasant holdings cannot solve the need for mechanization, agronomists, and other agricultural problems. Video then shows the Tianjin maritime port and bustling activity. Korzin notes that his cameraman was permitted to film anything he wished, as video pans the port from a high vantage point. He notes that since 1984 the port has become completely independent economically and operates only on the basis of profits, with no government assistance. As container-handling equipment and Japanese brand machines are shown, Korzin adds: "We spent almost an entire day here and saw nobody idle or taking a smoking break. It was a picture of the principle of material interests and thorough labor organization in action. The modern port equipment is of Japanese and American make. The Tianjin port has been given the status of a so-called free port, which means it concludes contracts independently both on the domestic and foreign markets. Equipment is purchased abroad with the profits. Soon a U.S. company will begin building a large automated warehouse at the port. Several Western banks have promised credit for the port's further development."

Video cuts back to show the Soviet exhibition in Beijing and more Russian-speaking Chinese recalling their former friendship with Soviet workers. Some even produce photographs of their former Soviet colleagues. As video shows more monochrome film showing Soviet specialists in China years ago, Korzin notes that the USSR was the first foreign power to extend disinterested aid to New China.

The documentary continues with shots of the Great Wall as Korzin notes China's past efforts to isolate itself from the outside world and the effect this had on the perception of foreigners. He says that the situation has changed today and that the most prominent buildings in Beijing are now hotels built according to Western blueprints and with Western capital. As video shows the Sheraton Hotel, Korzin notes that its manager is an American.

After showing the hotel interior decorated with a Christmas tree and tourist souvenir stalls outside, Korzin notes that these things are meant not only for tourists. As video shows a Pierre Cardin fashion show in Beijing, Korzin says: "According to published figures, the PRC in recent years has received credits, mainly from the West, amounting to $22 billion and signed investment contracts worth more than $19 billion. Japanese tape recorders, Swiss watches, and French cosmetics are now extensively advertised in Beijing as are the advantages of investing capital into the Chinese economy."

Video cuts to show modern buildings and construction in progress as Korzin says that a special economic zone is being developed near Tianjin. He points out that following the success of the first four zones, the PRC State Council decided to establish such zones in another 14 coastal cities. He adds: "In the near future, the number of enterprises operating partly or entirely with foreign capital will total 25,000, and some of them will be located here near Tianjin." He notes that by 1990, 100-150 factories will operate in the zone.

After showing construction workers at a building site, video cuts to show a futuristic sculpture which Korzin says was installed by a foreign company. He says it looks like a Chinese character while a Chinese woman shown talking to Korzin jokes that the place was visited recently by the U.S. ambassador who had said it was a symbol of the U.S. dollar and Marxism. Korzin notes that the enterprises will concentrate on high technology goods, and then discusses a Netherlands-built bicycle factory which is shown on video. Korzin talks with the Netherlands company's director who outlines advantages of production operations in China; cheap labor and raw materials and low rent and capital tax.

As video shows a blueprint of the zone, Korzin notes that the zone's management expects considerable gains for the Chinese side by attracting currency and technical know-how. He says: "According to the Chinese press, presently only one-fifth of PRC industry corresponds with the 1960-70 levels. It is expected that workers, after passing through the school of Western enterprises, will considerably enhance their skills." Korzin then cites *Renmin Ribao* which, he says, has complained about Western reluctance to help the development of China and often sends outdated machinery. He adds: "They must realize in China that with the open-door policy, the West must be entertaining hopes for a restoration of capitalist relations in China."

As video shows ancient tree roots sprouting from a solid stone wall, Korzin notes that they symbolize China's roots into the past and expresses concern over the loss of China's identity if it pursues such active links with the West. He talks about the symbolism of the Chinese as video shows an ancient dragon sculpture, a symbol of good luck, and stresses that despite superstition, the Chinese have always relied on themselves.

Video cuts to show the Capital Iron and Steel Company which, Korzin says, is one of the enterprises that will determine China's future development, more so than any of the economic zones. Video shows the plant's control room with modern technical equipment and various production processes as Korzin says that production of steel in China has reached 52 million metric tons annually, putting it in fourth place in the world in terms of quantity of steel produced. He notes, however, that the quality could be better.

Noting that there are plans to fundamentally rebuild the metallurgical front in the current 5-year plan, Korzin says that "there is a lot of interest here in the experience of Soviet metallurgists. We have been told that a delegation of the combine has already visited the USSR and that the question of purchasing Soviet equipment is under discussion."

Video cuts back to the Soviet exhibition and shows people viewing a fashion show and industrial exhibits. Korzin notes that expansion of contacts is one of the major purposes of the exhibition. He is then shown interviewing Li Peng, deputy premier of the PRC State Council, who opened the exhibition. Korzin asks Li Peng to assess the present state of and prospects for the development of trade and economic relations between the USSR and PRC. Li Peng says: "Trade and economic ties in recent years have developed noticeably. Our cooperation has great prospects."

Korzin goes on to note the similarity of USSR and PRC aims in developing economies as video shows exhibits at the pavilion, including models of Soviet spacecraft. Video then cuts to show film of China's satellite launching facilities as Korzin notes Chinese opposition to militarization of space and SDI. Video shows a rocket launch, then cuts to show a band playing a tune that Korzin identifies as "Sharpening the Tiger's Claws." Korzin says: "This music and the symbol of the tiger as an enemy have come from the distant past. Those who are attempting to play the so-called China card would like to retain this symbolism in Chinese-Soviet relations. However, we have seen in China that the desire for good-neighborly relations is gaining the upper hand."

Video again shows Russian-speaking visitors to the Soviet exhibition, this time expressing interest in the Soviet space program. Video cuts to show the Wangfujing Bookstore in Beijing that Korzin says, has a small selection of works by Soviet authors. Not long ago, he says, there were no Soviet books in the store at all. As video shows people browsing through the books, Korzin notes that many of the Soviet books are Russian language textbooks. Video then shown Korzin visiting a Beijing schoolroom where teenagers are shown studying Russian.

After commenting on plans for improving education in China in general, Korzin talks with some of the students and invites them to visit Moscow. The documentary then shows members of the Soviet exhibition staff visiting a cooperative near Beijing and then at their Beijing hotel. Korzin laments that the clocks in the hotel lobby show the time in Paris, London, New York, Rome, and elsewhere, but not the time in Moscow. "However," he says, as video shows a group of Soviet exhibition workers and Chinese farmers posing together, "this photograph taken in farewell at the Chinese-Soviet friendship cooperative will now be cherished in both Moscow and Beijing."

Video cuts back to show the Whispering Wall in Beijing as credits are shown on the screen and gratitude is expressed to the PRC Ministry of Radio, Cinema, and Television for helping with the documentary. The film was produced by the Ekran studio.

IZVESTIYA Reviews Show

PM091509 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 3

[A. Nabatchikov article: "Meeting Through the Decades"]

[Text] On 27 August the Central Television First Program showed a documentary entitled "Meeting With China." For Soviet viewers this is the first television look in many years of the world of contemporary China. The leaders of the film crew at the preview stressed that "Meeting With China" is noteworthy both from the viewpoint of the exceptionally amicable atmosphere in which filming took place and as a reflection of our peoples' growing mutual interest in one another, which is a clear manifestation of the positive processes taking shape in Soviet-Chinese relations.

The movie's first shots indicate the great hopes which our Chinese friends pin on the development of these processes and the depth of the roots uniting us. They talk about this openly and directly and often in Russian. They warmly recall that far-off time of joint work, study, and life with Soviet friends. They express the best of feelings toward our people and view the changes under way in our country with animation and interest.

The numerous episodes showing meetings with today's inhabitants of China conveying their warm friendly feelings toward us, are, in my opinion, some of the most attractive and impressive in the film.

In ancient times a wall was built in Beijing which enables you to hear your interlocutor's voice at a considerable distance. The scenes showing how living human voices fight their way through the wall to one another can probably be considered the movie's leitmotiv. They show that no barriers can cut people off from their mutual desire for links.

You also sense that "the walls of distrust" between our countries have been removed by the richness of the scenes captured by the cameraman and the wide range of themes covered by the authors. The absence of the usual stereotypes about the country is also attractive. It presents China as multifaceted, with its current achievements and problems, successfully combining this with scenes chronicling the recent tragic past.

There have already been many reports about economic reform in this country. "Meeting With China" enables us to clearly look at its positive and debatable aspects, in closeup, so to speak. We receive a very rare opportunity to visit the peasants of a suburban cooperative in the Chinese backwoods, see the life of a typical rural family, and see the real fruits of market forces in the countryside, the household family contract, the rational use of free manpower, and so on. We learn what the country receives from the so-called "open to Western capital" policy and the significance of the technological gulf between new and old in the country's enterprises, how the system of complete self-management is working, and many many other things.

"Meeting With China" is not only an introduction to antiquity and contemporary life, to the traditions and cultural monuments of our eastern neighbor. It is above all the joy of interesting journeys and acquaintances with the inhabitants of a country for which the Soviet people have always felt the kindest feelings and which the small screen is, as it were, rediscovering today.

Near East & South Asia

U.S. Gulf Action May Bring Escalation

LD220426 Moscow TASS in English 0420 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 22 TASS—TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

The Pentagon officially announced that on Monday U.S. helicopter gunships which took off from the missile frigate Jarrett fired on an Iranian ship in international waters in the central part of the Persian Gulf.

According to the Pentagon's statement, fire was opened on the order of the commander of the U.S. Middle East task force after it was established that the Iranian ship was dumping into water some objects "defined as mines". Its actions were immediately declared as "hostile to U.S. ships", which was used as a basis for the order to attack the ship.

U.S. helicopter gunships which were 15 miles from the frigate Jarrett at the time of the incident, opened fire with large-calibre machineguns and fired several missiles. As a result of the attack, fire broke out on the Iranian ship.

The White House official representative confirmed reports about rocketing the Iranian ship in the Persian Gulf. According to Marlin Fitzwater, assistant to the President for press relations, the United States took a defensive action in the Persian Gulf Monday evening when an Iranian ship was detected, which was laying mines in international waters 50 miles north-east of Bahrain.

The Pentagon official representative refused to tell TASS how many and what helicopters participated in the attack on the Iranian vessel. According to the AP agency, these gunships evidently belong to special army task forces recently dispatched by the Pentagon to the Persian Gulf area. The UPI agency points out that the U.S. Armed Forces opened fire on Iranians in the Persian Gulf for the first time since the United States had started building up there its naval presence. Local analysts speak with concern of a possibility of further escalation of combat operations in the Persian Gulf area.

Implementation of UNSC Resolution Urged

NC220832 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Aleksandr Pogodin commentary]

[Text] The situation in the Persian Gulf is again extraordinarily complicated and tense. However, the conclusions which can be drawn from this state of affairs differ. The U.S. State Department has hastily termed the UN secretary general's peace mission unsuccessful. Following the UN secretary general's visit to Iran and Iraq the U.S. defense secretary concluded that U.S. military actions in the Gulf must be accelerated. It is well-known that Washington's bureaucrats are not inclined to even consider the fact that the increased U.S. naval presence in the Gulf, along with their NATO allies' forces who have been lured there, has failed to reduce the tension. On the contrary, it has resulted in greater tension and the proliferation of the tanker war. It appears the present situation is a source of joy to the United States, which considers it a pretext for asserting its military preponderance.

Another deduction we can make from an assessment of the situation is that this dangerous course of events confirms that talks and a political solution are the only way to (?end the conflict) and ensure freedom of navigation. This is a difficult path, as the stances of the warring countries are diametrically opposed. Still, the quest for rapprochement should continue in line with the UN Security Council resolution; in other words, all actions which could exacerbate tension must be avoided. There is no other way to end the Iran-Iraq war and the battle of the tankers.

Khamene'i Cables Greetings to Gorbachev

LD220856 Moscow TASS in English 0759 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 22 TASS—President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, flying over the territory of the USSR on his way from Tehran to New York, has sent telegrammes to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Andrey Gromyko, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The telegrammes express the hope that relations between the two countries will continue to further develop on the basis of equality and respect, in the interests of both countries.

Italian Naval Ships Head for Gulf

LD192048 Moscow TASS in English 1908 GMT 19 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo September 19 TASS — Three Italian minesweepers and a support vessel arrived in Port Said on Saturday.

A spokesman for the Suez Canal Authority has said that they will start sailing along the canal soon, heading for the Persian Gulf.

Another three Italian combatant ships—the frigates *Scirocco*, *Grecale*, and *Perseo*—are expected to arrive in Port Said tomorrow.

The Italian navy ships are to join those of a number of other Western countries, which are already there, in the explosive Persian Gulf area.

Middle East Peace Plan Disclosed

LD210913 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0831 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Sep—Soviet Foreign Ministry sources have disclosed to the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* that the USSR has crystalized a plan for the convocation of an international Middle East Peace conference. The plan has four main points.

In a report published today, the paper writes that the plan was formed following contacts between Israeli and Soviet diplomats.

The paper adds that the first point provides for the operation of the conference within two parallel frameworks: The full meeting of the conference with the active participation of the UN Security Council five permanent member countries, and the meeting of regional committees from the countries directly involved in the conflict.

The second point provides for a discussion by the full conference of all the international aspects of the peace process in the region, such as international guarantees for peace, the Palestinian entity, and the position of Jerusalem.

The third point provides for the conveyance by each of the regional committees of all agreements and resolutions it has reached to the full conference in order to give them an international legitimacy.

The fourth point provides for reciprocal recognition between the PLO and Israel that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people with the right to speak on behalf of the Palestine people.

The Soviet sources pointed out that Israeli diplomats rejected this plan following consultations with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

The paper gave no other details.

Jericho Development Following U.S. Accord

TA212133 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1630 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] An increasing number of countries around the world welcome the Soviet-U.S. dialogue on medium-and short-range missiles. Declarations of support for the agreement reached in the Shultz-Shevardnadze talks flow in from Italy, Finland, Belgium, the Netherlands, and many other countries. President Reagan defined the dialogue as having historic importance, and this is indeed so. After all, the sides agreed to dismantle their missiles with a range of 500 to 5,500 km everywhere in the world. These are, as is known, the most dangerous missiles from the point of view of dealing a first strike. The dismantling of medium-range missiles will considerably improve the political climate in Europe and throughout the world. However, reference is only to the two superpowers' missiles. What about the weapons of other countries? The two sides naturally do not want there to be any more missiles of the type which they themselves are dismantling, and not only because this may trigger a nuclear arms race in a particular region; the superpowers also have their security reasons, because countries with nuclear capability or with near nuclear capability are usually members of or affiliated with military blocs.

Hence, the superpowers cannot exclude from consideration the danger inherent in other countries' medium-range missiles. The question arising here, then, concerns Israel's Jericho 2 missiles. These missiles are medium-range operational missiles and can carry nuclear warheads. Since the Soviet Union is acting to eliminate the danger posed to its territory by the U.S. missiles in Europe, it will of course also have to act to eliminate such a danger from other elements as well. Even without the medium-range missiles the Soviet Union will remain a world superpower with a huge nuclear potential indeed, but the dismantling of these missiles forces it to be particularly sensitive to the development of the political-security situation near its borders, especially regarding the development of medium-range missiles in these areas, since we will not possess identical means to serve as a restraining element. The problem here does not lie in the Israeli missiles themselves, but primarily in the fact that Israel maintains a strategic pact with the United States and consequently forms part of the U.S. potential, including that of nuclear missiles. If the United States divests itself of its medium-range missiles while Israel does not divest itself of its missiles, it is clear that the Soviet Union will treat this Israeli potential as part of the U.S. strategic potential.

As early as a few years ago we warned Israel against the grave results of forming a strategic alliance with the United States. Now Israel is faced with a dilemma. It either participates in all U.S. adventures, including when this definitely runs counter to national interests, as proven by the Iran arms affair; or it acts by virtue of its own power, as it were, as a subcontractor, and conducts a pro-imperialistic policy in the Middle East. The latter is even more dangerous since Israel will thus challenge the neighboring countries and accelerate armament in the region. We should conclude, then, that Israel's development of medium-range missiles deviates even beyond the Middle East framework and thus entails even greater dangers. We believe that the efforts adopted by the superpowers toward lessening tensions should serve also as an example to Israel, for it to act for its own interests as well as the interests of the other regional countries. The time has come to build bridges of peace in the Middle East, and to this end the building of missiles that endanger the future of all regional peoples must not be continued.

U.S., France Thwart Libyan Efforts in Chad

LD192034 Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 19 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli September 19 TASS—According to the JANA news agency, heads of diplomatic missions were invited to Libya's People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison today. They were told that imperialist powers were pushing Chad towards refusal of the peaceful settlement advocated by Libya. France and the United States seek to achieve their imperialist goals in the region, to preserve the military presence in Chad in order to use its territory as a bridgehead for unleashing aggression against Libya, the report points out.

The international community must know whom the escalation of tension in the region suits, who is calling for the war and who is behind these calls, the news agency points out. If the war starts again, Paris and Washington will bear full responsibility for it.

Libya informed the president of the U.N. Security Council, the chairman of the Organization of African Unity and the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement on its position.

Al-Qadhdhafi Remarks

LD181045 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli September 17 TASS—Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, stated that the war between Chad and Libya ended with driving the enemy out of Aozou and crushing it in Al-Sarra. He addressed a mass rally in the city of Suluq Wednesday evening to commemorate Libyan national hero 'Umar al-Mukhtar executed by Italian colonizers on September 16, 1931.

Last Friday, responding to the call by the Organisation of African Unity, Libya and Chad agreed to a ceasefire in the territorial conflict over the disputable Aozou strip.

The Libyan Jamahiriyah is located within its international borders and closed its border with Chad once and for all, leaving Chad to the Chadians. Al-Qadhdhafi also said that Libya wanted peace to be established in Chad and concord and unity reached among all Chadian groups.

Libya will do everything possible to have the war between Iran and Iraq ended, Al-Qadhdhafi said. Keeping this war going meets the interests of imperialism and it alone.

The Libyan leader denounced the Reagan administration's decision to close the PLO information office in Washington. This way, he said, the United States laid bare its true face and attitude to the Arab and Islamic world. This step by the U.S. Administration forcefully demonstrates that Washington sides with the Zionists.

Al-Qadhdhafi welcomed the Palestine resistence movement, the national-patriotic forces of Lebanon and all progressive forces in the Arab world, and called upon them to take the side of the Libyan people repelling the intrigues of U.S.-led imperialism and the NATO bloc.

U.S. Steps Up Arms to Afghan Rebels

LD211538 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 21 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Orekhov reports:

The United States continues broadening arms deliveries to Afghan Dushman gangs. The newspaper *The Washington Post* reports today that the Reagan administration has decided to send the U.S.-armed Afghan counterrevolutionaries long-range mortars and other military equipment. In the administration's circles they do not conceal that having decided to deliver new heavy arms to Dushmans, Washington hopes for a further escalation of hostilities in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Earlier this year the United States supplied the bandits with anti-aircraft Stinger missiles and that has already taken a toll of scores of lives—passengers of civil aviation planes. New 120 mm Israeli- and Spanish-made mortars will enable the bandits to shell towns and settlements of Afghanistan from a big distance.

According to the newspaper, the architects of this plan regret only that though the first consignments of mortars will be sent to counterrevolutionaries not later than in October or November, because of heavy winter conditions the new weapons supplied by the United States will not be effective till next summer. It should be noted that the decision to send new heavy arms to Afghan Dushmans was taken in Washington as far back as in summer this year, without waiting for the outcome of the next round of Geneva negotiations which are searching for political ways of a peace settlement of the situation related to Afghanistan. This fact patently shows once again that the United States is not interested in an early termination of hostilities in Afghanistan.

Reconciliation in DRA's Samangan

LD181121 Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 18 Sep 87

[Text] Kabul September 18 TASS—Three anti-government groups have laid down arms in Qandahar, Herat and Baghlan Provinces of Afghanistan. Former enemies of people's power made up their minds to give up the armed struggle under the influence of an appeal of the revolutionary leadership of Afghanistan for national reconciliation, the *Bakhtar* news agency reports.

A policy aimed at achieving national accord is being successfully put into life in Samangan Province. By today ceasefire agreements were concluded there with 15 armed groups. Talks on the conditions of armistice with another 28 groups are coming to a close. A dialogue of the local government bodies with counterrevolutionary groups is bringing tangible results. A group of 580 people gave up resistance to government troops. Since the beginning of the current Afghan year which started in March 1987 1,300 people have returned to Samangan from abroad.

West Europe

Gorbachev Sends Letter to Ruhr Workers

LD211728 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1418 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] Dortmund, 21 Sep (TASS)—The handing over of the reply by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the letter from members of factory councils of enterprises of steelmaking industry of the Ruhr region took place in this major FRG industrial center today. Yuliy Kvitsinskiy, the USSR's ambassador to the FRG, handed over the Soviet leader's reply. It says:

Esteemed friends! I thank you for your letter. It deals not only with the most topical problems of liquidation of nuclear missiles and emergence onto new roads in European politics, but also the burning domestic issues in your country, in particular the prospects of development of the Ruhr region, the industrial heart of the FRG and Europe.

I take your message as a display of trust toward the Soviet Union and its policy. A desire to share one's innermost thoughts and to seek a joint solution to difficult questions usually arises between good neighbors. I would like to believe that in this sense the message from the Ruhr steelmen is a sign of the times. Indeed, goodneighborliness, trust, and cooperation should determine the atmosphere in our common European home, which is to be built by the efforts of all European peoples.

Europe is ripe for this. In solving her own problems, she can set a good example of farsighted and effective cooperation for the sake of the survival of mankind and the solution of large-scale problems for the further progress of civilization under different sociopolitical systems. Our countries possess no small potential for contributing to making the development of events go in just such a direction. Thus, a fresh page would also be turned in relations between the Soviet Union and the FRG.

A new way of European thinking is needed. This is felt literally in everything. The spasm of confrontation between two blocs that has seized Europe—the economic, technological, and scientific division of the continent—is not a natural state. It is not in the interests of Europeans to maintain it. You are right when you note that the industry of the Ruhr, which is currently gasping for breath within the framework of the EEC, would have quite different potential and prospects on the scale from the Atlantic to Siberia. Yes, it is not confrontation, but honest cooperation and coordination that ought to become the linchpin of the entire structure of life in Europe. This will open up new prospects in politics, in economics and in the human sphere as well. Each inhabitant of our European home will only gain from it.

The Soviet Union has long traditions of cooperation and trade with the Ruhr. We wish these traditions to be preserved and multiplied. In the conditions of economic reform in the USSR and of the restructuring of our foreign trading links there are opportunities for envigorating cooperation with firms and workers' collectives in your region and for transferring it to increasingly intensive forms. These opportunities for mutual benefit and advantage must be made use of. We can also see room for expanding supplies of the products of the metallurgical industry from the Ruhr to the USSR, if, of course, no obstacles are erected on the Western side, to mutual benefit.

I wish the residents of the Ruhr region successes in their work, in their personal lives, and in their efforts in preserving their home area and ensuring that it flourishes.

Friendly greetings from M. Gorbachev.

Carrington Cites Reservation on Agreement

LD182000 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1017 GMT 18 Sep 87

[Text] London 18 Sep (TASS)—Speaking at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington expressed on the whole support for the Soviet-U.S. agreement on the elimination of medium-range and operational-tactical missiles. In his own words, it "represents a historical achievement which we have to welcome". However, the NATO leader virtually reduced to nil his positive appraisal on this point with a reservation which provided eloquent proof of the NATO top echelon's attitude toward the prospects for nuclear disarmament. "This agreement can strengthen stability in Europe, he said, but we must not allow the euphoria which accompanies it to push us toward some mythical nonnuclear nirvana."

Europe will become less saturated with nuclear weapons, but NATO will, as before, need them, Lord Carrington continued. The NATO secretary general was attempting to justify the alliance's adherance to nuclear weapons by the fact that until missiles are eliminated, "the balance between East and West could be disrupted and NATO will be obliged to guard against any temporary vulnerability."

The NATO leader dispelled misgivings that are being expressed in a number of West European countries, particularly in France, in connection with the fact that an agreement on medium-range missiles and operational-tactical missiles could lead to a "weakening of ties" between the United States and West Europe. The United States' commitment to the defense of the European continent is confirmed by the presence of U.S. troops, numbering 326,000, he said.

UK's Howe Favors Agreement

LD182254 Moscow TASS in English 2225 GMT 18 Sep 87

[Text] London September 18 TASS—Sir Geoffrey Howe, Britain's secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, welcomed the prospect for a Soviet-American agreement on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles.

Speaking in an interview to BBC television today, he said that the signing of such a treaty would be a very important event and a "formidable achievement."

"If we get it, it will increase confidence between East and West," he added.

Such an agreement will also indicate that it is possible to reach other accords, specifically, on strategic arms, Sir Geoffrey Howe said.

At the same time he did not answer the question when the dismantling of U.S. cruise missiles stationed in Britain could be expected.

NATO Exercises in Norwegian Sea End

LD211456 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0430 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] NATO naval exercises have ended off Norwegian shores. Our correspondent in Scandinavia Valentin Gubernatorov reports:

According to local observers, the recent exercises have once again confirmed the growing interest of NATO strategists in the northern European region. Reports on the exercises give a fairly vivid picture of how the U.S. aircraft carrier *Forrestal* emerged suddenly from a fiord and, breaking waves with its powerful hull, rushed across the paths of the invading enemy ships which, in this case, were played by Norwegian Navy vessels.

More and more often U.S. aircraft carriers pay visits, so to speak, to the Norwegian Sea. This is the first time since the sixties, however, that a U.S. Navy ship has penetrated so far north, reports note. Earlier, when Americans did not have strategic missiles, NATO strategists thought that it was possible to reach northern USSR territories by aircraft from aircraft carriers. Then missiles came into being. The question arises, then, as to the need of the U.S. vessels to approach USSR territory so closely.

The answer was given by Admiral Charles Larson, commander of the U.S. striking fleet and chief of the "Ocean Safari" exercise. Without a shade of hesitation, in a clear-cut military manner, he said: The U.S. Navy sees its strategic task as keeping the Soviet Navy under lock within its own coastal waters. The general's menacing statements of this sort have frightened even U.S. allies. Norwegian observers think that the new U.S. strategy spells serious complications for Norway. According to this new strategy, the NATO navy can escape retaliation by hiding in deep Norwegian fiords. Besides, the United States plans to station on its ships here 4,000 cruise missiles, of which 800 will be equipped with nuclear warheads. These plans of NATO strategists are causing natural worry and growing concern among the inhabitants of northern Europe.

NATO Military Committee Session Opens

LD172136 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 17 Sep 87

[Text] Istanbul September 17 TASS—The chiefs of the general staffs of 14 countries grouped in the military wing of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), as well as the head of the French military mission, are taking part in a session of NATO's military committee, which has opened here.

The session, whose agenda has not been disclosed, has coincided in time with large-scale NATO exercises, code-named Display Determination-87, started in western Turkey and in the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas.

According to the *Anatolia News Agency*, countries participating in the exercises include the United States, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Turkey and France.

The goal of the war games is to train interaction between the air, naval and land forces of southern European countries and the United States.

French-FRG Military Cooperation Scored

PM171510 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Sep 87 First Edition p 3

["International Notes" by Captain M. Zheglov: "Dangerous Rapprochement"]

[Text] "Early in September the Warsaw Pact states sharply exacerbated the international situation, and in the middle of the month, violating the sovereignty of neutral Austria, their armed forces invaded the territory of NATO countries. After attempts by Warsaw Pact troops to surround West German units in the south of the FRG, the French Armed Forces' 'rapid action force' was brought into combat with the task of destroying the enemy in the region of Augsburg, Ingolstadt, and Freising" — that is how the Austrian communists' newspaper *Volksstimme* described the scenario for the biggest ever Franco-West German maneuvers, "Kecker Spatz." This provocative "show," held from 17 through 27 September, involves, according to the *Parisien Libere* newspaper, more than 75,000 servicemen from the FRG's 2d Army Corps and the French "rapid action force," hundreds of tanks, 7,000 other items of armored hardware, and 240 helicopters. The ground forces' "combat" operations are actively supported by aircraft from the 4th joint tactical air command from NATO's joint air forces in the central zone of Europe.

In this connection I would like to note that "Kecker Spatz" are by no means the only military maneuvers in which the Federal Republic's Armed Forces are playing a very active part this fall. In September alone the Bundeswehr ground, air, and naval forces have been or will be involved in the "Botany Bay," "Cold Fire," "Certain Strike," and "Goldener Loewe" exercises, which are being held within the framework of the NATO-wide "Autumn Forge" maneuvers.

This is not the first time that the Bundeswehr has taken part in "combat" operations on the NATO model, but this time the scale and intensity of its participation are unprecedented. To all appearances, people on the banks of the Rhine are preparing for a prolonged war, involving the use of nuclear weapons. Not for nothing is the most powerful grouping of NATO troops already concentrated on FRG territory, with the Bundeswehr as its basis. Here, according to the foreign press, 66 percent of the North Atlantic bloc's nuclear delivery means and some 85 percent of the nuclear ammunition for them are concentrated. Missile positions are being built at an accelerated pace near Bamberg, and the Wiesbaden-Erbenheim airfield and the Grafenwoehr and Wildflecken firing ranges are being extended and modernized.

The scale of the military preparations in the country is also indicated by the fact that tens of thousands of West German civilian employees and specialists, according to the press bulletin *Metall*, have already been registered as "subject to priority mobilization." It is envisaged that they will ensure material supplies, communications, and construction work for the American grouping in the FRG and the Bundeswehr. The quantity and procedure for utilization of federal railroad rolling stock for military purposes have been defined, 60,000 construction machines and heavy trucks belonging to private firms have been registered, and the captains of 1,378 maritime merchant shipping vessels have mobilization instructions. Food ration cards for the population have already been printed and await their hour. You do not need to be a specialist to realize that all this goes far beyond the bounds of ordinary preparatory mobilization measures.

However, it should be noted that the FRG is not the only country in Western Europe that is stepping up its military preparations. Its closest neighbor, France, is following the same path. In spring of this year the country's National Assembly approved a bill under which Fr474 billion will be spent on the purchase or manufacture of arms from 1987 through 1991. Moreover France has decided to create by the year 2000 highly complex types of arms capable of increasing the strike power of its armed forces: strategic missiles and warheads of the new generation, nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, spy satellites, and so forth. As the Italian journal *Panorama* stressed, the purpose of these preparations is clear: France seeks once again to play a "global" role in the world, and at the same time to regain its former militarist greatness.

Paris, by participating in the "Kecker Spatz" maneuvers, has in practice confirmed the earlier statements by its leaders about the French Army's readiness to take part in the "defense of the FRG" together with the NATO allies. But I would like to stress that there is nobody to defend the FRG against, and that military rapprochement with a state which has elevated revanchism to the status of a state policy and is reinforcing its territorial claims with military preparations has never done anyone any good. Rather the reverse....

Genscher on Strategic Conventional Arms

LD211916 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 21 TASS—West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has described the Soviet-American agreement in principle to eliminate medium- and shorter-range missiles as a first step towards real disarmament.

In an interview with the NBC television network, Genscher expressed his profound conviction that the agreement facilitated greater security and stability.

"We consider it the first, but not the last step in the field of disarmament. We ought to continue talks in that direction."

The agreement should be used, the minister said, for advancing at the talks on strategic and conventional arms and chemical weapons.

French Plane Makers Fear U.S. Pressure

PM181341 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA own correspondent report under the rubric "Facts, Events, Opinions": "Industrialists Are Pricking Up Their Ears"]

[Text] Paris—The French have assumed the role of one of the main pioneers in building cooperation between West European countries in the sphere of joint arms production.

For example, Defense Minister A. Giraud recently had a conversation in Paris with a delegation from the American Mcdonnell Douglas Corporation, during which the sides discussed projects for the two countries' joint creation of a new fighter aircraft. This was also discussed during the minister's recent visit to the United States, where he had a meeting with Pentagon chief C. Weinberger. Giraud will soon be flying to Rome with the same plans. For his part, J. Chevallier, head of the main arms administration, is to leave for London in a few days time accompanied by a large group of French businessmen to discuss the question of producing military equipment for the two countries' land armies.

Observers note in this connection that there have been substantial changes in France's position. Whereas it used to prefer to manage with its own forces, all that has now altered. "Paris," *Le Monde* has noted, "is smiling right and left to initiate joint arms production with its allies."

According to information published in the press, during his conversation with the Mcdonnell Douglas representatives A. Giraud discussed the question of obtaining 20 American F-18 fighters for the French Air Force and also their company's involvement in producing the new French "Rafale" aircraft. The talks provoked a negative reaction from French industrialists.

The businessmen are most alarmed by the long-term Mcdonnell Douglas strategy. They believe that the Americans are playing games with international cooperation in order to "wring Rafale's neck" with the aid of their "Super F-18" aircraft. They are convinced that American firms are trying to squeeze out their competitors, France included, from West European markets. Something similar has already happened with Japan, which Washington has "dissuaded" from beginning production of its own aircraft.

It is no accident that business circles here fear that they could, figuratively speaking, get their fingers burned on this kind of cooperation.

Belgium Dispatches Ships to Persian Gulf

LD212132 Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Brussels September 21 TASS—Belgian Navy ships today sailed out of port Ostende and headed towards the Persian Gulf. They will take part in operations related to "ensuring the safety of shipping in international waters".

Under pressure from Atlanticists the right-centrist government of Prime Minister Wilfried Martens made a decision last week to send the two minsweepers *Bovesse* and *Breydel* under the escort of the military support ship *Zinnia* to that explosive region for four to five months. According to the head of the Belgian Government, these ships have aboard armaments necessary to fulfil their mission.

The Brussels newspaper *Le Drapeau Rouge* sarcastically noted today that the only thing which is known about this operation is that the Belgian ships are sailing into the Persian Gulf. All the rest—the goals of the operation, the circumstances and conditions of work—are unknown.

Swedish Press 'Fantasies' on Submarines

PM171512 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian17 Sep 87First Edition p 3]

[TASS report: "Mr Agrell's Fantasies"]

[Text] Stockholm, 16 Sep—While the fantastic stories of Baron Munchhausen, who liked to spend his leisure time amusing his listeners with his own strange adventures, evoke smiles, the inventions put forward in the Swedish press by Vilhelm Agrell, who is well-known here as a student of questions of peace and conflicts, make your flesh crawl, so to speak....

And no wonder. He assails the imagination of the Swedish reader with terrifying pictures of how hundreds of Soviet soldiers from specially trained "spetsnaz" units are henceforth regularly penetrating Sweden's skerries for training exercises in the elimination of leading Swedish figures and the destruction of various targets, including radio and television communications and transport junctions. And these "warriors" are "sent in" to Sweden from Soviet submarines which, the "analyst" informs us, are swarming in Swedish waters!

But then why, despite the desperate efforts being made here, have they still not managed to find the mythical submarines? Because, V. Agrell complains, the Swedish Navy does not want to, because it is afraid of "annoying" the Soviet Union. That being so, in order to avoid the risk, the military authorities deem it best to let these boats out of their fjords with impunity, but at the same time to lead the Swedes by the nose, creating the semblance of an active "hunt" for submarines.

Agrell goes on to call loudly on Swedish military circles at all costs to start making real efforts at last to seek the submarines, and not to "engage in hypocrisy." Mr Agrell appears to forget about the millions of kronor already squandered in the form of depth charges, the hundreds of tons of fuel burned by warships and helicopters, and the special metal nets which ensnare the bottom of the local fjords like spider's webs, and which, people here claim, not even a seal could pass through, let alone a submarine!

So whom should the Swedish reader believe? The statements of representatives of local military circles and the country's political leadership, or Mr Agrell? According to the logic of things, the government and the military authorities ought to be better informed on questions concerning the country's defense and security.

But V. Agrell has his own "logic," based on "staggering" information obtained, incidentally, from nobody knows where. True, it is striking that more or less similar things are sometimes said by Pentagon and NATO figures, who also are not averse to intimidating the Swedes with the tiresome, mythical "Soviet threat." And indeed, does it really matter, in the end, from whom he borrowed his "information"? But by crudely manipulating that information Agrell is deliberately trying to sow distrust among the Swedes in the policy of the Soviet Union, whose leadership has stressed repeatedly that it fully respects Swedish neutrality and territorial integrity. And these are official, responsible statements, unlike V. Agrell's groundless assertions, which hardly accord with the tasks of the objective study of peace problems in which he has hitherto been engaged.

Latin America & Caribbean

PRAVDA Scores U.S. Nicaragua Policy

PM171217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

[V. Listov "International Notes": "Neither Extinguishing It Itself Nor Allowing Others To Do So... White House Wrecking Settlement in Central America"]

[Text] The attention of the Latin American public is now once again focused on events around Nicaragua. The process of a peaceful, political settlement of the conflict in the region, which received a strong boost a month ago at the meeting of five presidents of Central American countries in Guatemala, has entered the phase of adopting specific decisions and taking specific measures to implement the Guatemalan accords.

Sandinista Nicaragua was the first to take such steps, setting the others an example. A national reconciliation commission headed by Cardinal Obando y Bravo, a prominent opposition figure, has been set up in Managua, and the Nicaraguan Government has reaffirmed its readiness to fulfill the terms of the Guatemalan agreements on questions of an amnesty, a cease-fire, democratization, the holding of free elections, respect for civic and political rights, and so forth. At the same time, Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez has once again urged the U.S. Administration to stop giving aid to the contras.

Washington, however, continues to pretend to hear and see nothing. But it is saying a great deal, and always the same thing: The United States will not stop supporting the contras in their bandit operations against Nicaragua's legitimate government until it fulfills all the demands of Washington, that is, of the contras.

Let us recall that, on meeting with the Nicaraguan contra leaders in Los Angeles recently, U.S. President R. Reagan declared that he "will not desert" them or abandon them to the mercy of fate. The U.S. press itself wrote that the President made it clear that he remains devoted to the contra cause and that together they will continue the "struggle for democracy" in Nicaragua (of course, no mention was made of the "struggle for democracy" in the United States).

It is significant that Somocist Colonel Bermudez, the contra military leader renowned as a zealous opponent of any peace talks with the Sandinistas, participated for the first time in an official meeting with the head of the U.S. Administration. It is also interesting that the contras' attempts to secure a further dollar handout from Washington (according to press reports, Reagan will very soon ask Congress for a further $120 million to finance them) came to the fore during the meeting.

Well, it is up to the President himself to decide which cause to serve and with whom to meet. We will only point out that there was essentially nothing unexpected either in the stand taken by the head of the U.S. Administration or in the meeting itself. The President's meeting with the contras was, rather, of a demonstrative nature. It was a continuation of the one held between them at the beginning of August, on the eve of the conference in Guatemala of the five Central American presidents. Reagan has now declared once again that he will follow the previous course of virtually eliminating the gains of the Sandinist revolution. And, just as he did earlier, when he put to Managua demands incompatible with the sovereignty of an independent state, he has now advanced a new ultimatum: The Sandinistas are obliged (!), he says, to begin direct talks with the contras, who must not lay down their arms at all, and the United States will not stop giving them "humanitarian" aid. Not that this ultimatum was unexpected—right after the Guatemalan conference of the five presidents U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger stated the need to "keep up military pressure on the Sandinistas."

So what was new in Reagan's California meeting with the Nicaraguan contra leaders? Probably the fact that the latest "show" has been played out under conditions where a qualitatively new situation is taking shape not only in Central America but also throughout Latin America. For the U.S. President held the Los Angeles meeting not only after Guatemala but also after Caracas, where the foreign ministers of not 5 but 13 countries of the continent—leading countries, at that—did not just approve the "peace plan" signed in Guatemala but also set up an international commission to monitor its fulfillment in the presence of the OAS secretary general and the UN secretary general's representative. Now it turns out that, whereas Washington hitherto pursued a position affable toward the contras, the master of the White House is making it unambiguously clear to all who support the Guatemalan accords that their opinion means precisely nothing to him.

In the contemporary international situation the U.S. President's meeting with the Nicaraguan contra leaders is nothing but a relapse into Washington's neoglobalist, aggressive aspirations. As the whole world is speaking of disarmament and the need for peaceful dialogue to resolve disputed problems, the head of the U.S. Administration emphasizes by his demonstrative support for the contras that he sees Nicaragua's "path to development" exclusively through "military pressure" on that country. In other words, while accusing others of being reluctant to promote the settlement of regional conflicts, Reagan is neither trying himself to extinguish the Central American bonfire nor allowing others to do so.

The growing U.S. isolation in Latin America is the legitimate consequence of this policy. Only the odious regimes of Pinochet in Chile and Stroessner in Paraguay now obediently follow in the wake of Washington's aggressive policy. The continent is coming out in an increasingly united front for a peaceful settlement of the Central American crisis. But the master of the White House is doggedly preparing the ground for wrecking the peace process. In this way he is throwing down the gauntlet to all Latin Americans.

Ortega Rules Out Talks With Contras

LD2000054 Moscow TASS in English 1829 GMT 19 Sep 87

[Text] Managua September 19 TASS—President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has again stated that the government of the revolutionary republic will not hold any negotiations with Somocista leaders.

"Nicaragua's stand is well-known. We are prepared to have dialogue with the United States Government, and not with its hirelings", the Nicaraguan leader said in an interview with journalists.

Daniel Ortega said Costa Rican President Oscar Arias had sent a message to him, conveying proposals on a ceasefire in Nicaragua.

"Under the Guatemala agreement on peace, the Nicaraguan Government will take the necessary steps with a view of securing a ceasefire and will take the Costa Rican president's initiative into account," Daniel Ortega pointed out.

Ortega Ready To Honor Guatemala Accords

LD200850 Moscow TASS in English 0741 GMT 20 Sep 87

[Text] Managua September 20 TASS—TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov reports:

"The United States must stop any aid to the contras and get down to a dialogue with Nicaragua, if it sincerely wants the Guatemala agreement to be successfully implemented", Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega has said.

Speaking to journalists after meeting a delegation of American senators, Ortega came out for attaining mutual understanding, and peaceful co-existence between Nicaragua and the United States.

"The Nicaraguan Government is striving to normalize the Nicaraguan-American relations. Our country wants peace and, for its part, is ready to honour the accords reached in Guatemala", Ortega emphasized.

Nicaragua's D'Escoto Praises Contadora

LD181152 Moscow TASS in English 1133 GMT 18 Sep 87

[Text] Managua September 18 TASS—By TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov:

The executive commission including foreign ministers of the Central American countries and the internatioal commission for the verification and control of the accords signed by the heads of states of the region in Guatemala, has resumed work in the Nicaraguan capital. Addressing the official opening ceremony of the meetings of both commissions, Nicaragua's Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto stressed that the Guatemalan accords reflect the wish of the Central American peoples for peace and goodneighbourliness contrary to the attempts of the United States at sowing distrust and enmity between them.

Over the 40 days which passed after the signing of the accords, the Nicaraguan minister pointed out, the tensions and distrust existing between the Central American countries have been replaced with new thinking. The states of the region have become partners in the great and noble cause of the fight for peace based on mutual respect and friendship. The democratic processes, which the presidents of the Central American nations have committed themselves to develop in their countries, Miguel d'Escoto said, should be accompanied with the promotion of social justice, respect for human rights, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, the right of all peoples to choose independently without any interference from the outside their political and socio-economic system.

Nicaragua's foreign minister demanded from the United States an end to the criminal aggression against the Republic and interference in the Central American affairs, observance of the norms of international law.

Miguel d'Escoto expressed profound gratitude to the Contadora group countries and the support group for their efforts aimed at a peaceful settlement of the regional crisis. The Nicaraguan foreign minister reaffirmed the determination of the Republic's government to abide strictly by their commitments and urged the Central American countries also to do everything necessary for the successful implementation of the Guatemala accords.

Rogachev Receives Cuban Foreign Minister

PM181356 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Announcements"]

[Text] A talk took place at the USSR Foreign Ministry 16 September between USSR Deputy Foreign Minister I.A. Rogachev and Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister G. Mazola, who stopped over in Moscow.

Surinamese Parliament Official Visits

PM181009 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Interparliamentary Ties"]

[Text] On 15 September Yu.A. Izrael, deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, had a meeting with Dzh. Pinas [name as published], deputy chairman of the Surinamese National Assembly, who is in our country at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies.

During the friendly conversation the sides noted the important role played by parliaments in the task of strengthening universal peace and stressed their mutual desire to develop USSR-Surinamese contacts, including between the two countries' parliamentarians and public.

Political & Social

No Comment on Gorbachev 'Food Poisoning'

AU220805 Paris AFP in English 2250 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Moscow, Sept 21 (AFP)—The Soviet Foreign Ministry Monday refused to comment on the whereabouts of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who according to a West German press report was treated in hospital for food poisoning while on holiday in the Crimea.

It has not yet been officially announced here whether Mr. Gorbachev or his wife has returned from their summer holidays.

"We do not have any information on the matter", was the only comment of the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Unlike last year, Mr. Gorbachev's departure on holiday was also not announced. The news that he had left was given to a group of visiting American congressmen who had wanted to meet the Soviet leader at the end of August. [passage omitted]

CPSU CC Resolution on Winter Preparations

PM220900 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 87 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has adopted a resolution "On the Course of Preparation of the National Economy for Work in Winter Conditions."

The resolution notes that, fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on this question, ministries and departments, party, soviet, and economic organs, and labor collectives have stepped up work on the winter preparation of enterprises and organizations, transport, and housing and municipal services. The targets set for the extraction of oil, coal, and gas and the stockpiling of fuel have been overfulfilled in the national economy as a whole.

At the same time the standard of organization of winter preparations and the volume and especially the quality of work being done to this end are giving rise to serious concern. Laggardness has occurred in prewinter work in housing and municipal services, the agricultural complex, and railroad transport. The leaders of a number of ministries, enterprises, and organizations and certain local party and soviet organs are not taking into account in their practical activity the mistakes made last winter, are showing a lack of discipline in the fulfillment of the targets set, are tolerating serious shortcomings and omissions in the implementation of prewinter measures, and are evaluating the winter preparations according to general, averaged indicators, without a concrete analysis of the state of affairs in the localities.

They are behind with preparations for the winter at housing and municipal service facilities in the Uzbek and Georgian SSR's, the Yakutsk and Karelian ASSR's, Maritime and Khabarovsk Krays, and Donetsk, Perm, Amur, Vologda, and Kaliningrad Oblasts. The repair of heating systems in Gorkiy City and the heating boilerhouse and apartment blocks in Severomorsk City, and the settlement of Vidyayevo in Murmansk Oblast has still not been completed.

The USSR Ministry of Railways is not ensuring the fulfillment of the targets set for coal shipments by railroad transport. Attention is drawn to the impermissible delays from this ministry in eliminating chronic shortcomings in the work of a number of railroads in the winter period. Schedules for capital repairs of the railroad are not being fulfilled on the Volga, Southeast, and South Urals Railroads. There is a lag in repairs of snow-clearing equipment on certain main lines. At a significant proportion of enterprises the sidings, loading and unloading facilities, and car dumpers are not yet ready for the winter. This work is poorly organized at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry and the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry.

Many ministries, departments and union republic councils of ministers are not devoting due attention to the implementation of measures in the economical and thrifty utilization of fuel and energy resources. In the first half of this year there was an overexpenditure of fuel at the enterprises and organizations of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, and the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, and there was an overexpenditure of electricity in the Kazakh SSR.

The CPSU Central Committee stressed that to ensure the smooth functioning of the national economy in the coming winter, and above all that of facilities in the social sphere in order to create suitable living conditions for the working people, is a most important factor in the practical implementation of the planned measures for the radical restructuring of the economy according to the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum and the successful fulfillment of 1987 plan targets and socialist pledges adopted by the labor collectives in honor of the 70th anniversary of Great October, and a fitting greeting for the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference.

The CPSU Central Committee demanded that USSR ministries and departments, union republic councils of ministers, and local soviet and economic organs shortly eliminate shortcomings in the preparation of enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other organizations for work in winter conditions and adopt exhaustive measures to implement the planned volumes of extraction, production of energy resources and shipments of coal and petroleum products, and to create the necessary stocks of fuel, raw materials, and semifinished goods.

It is proposed to step up in every way the activity of labor collectives to ensure the thrifty and rational utilization of fuel and energy, the unconditional fulfillment of plan targets and pledges adopted for savings, and the strictest observance by enterprises and organizations of electricity consumption quotas. The struggle against thriftlessness and extravagance in the expenditure of fuel and energy resources is to be stepped up.

Noting the unsatisfactory condition of the construction of a number of power industry projects that are scheduled for completion, first and foremost the Khmelnitskaya AES, the Berezovskaya and Gusinoozerskaya GRES's, and the Amurskaya, Novosibirskaya, Volzhskaya, and Astrakhanskaya TETS's, where construction is being carried out by the USSR Ministries of Power and Electrification, Nuclear Power, Installation and Special Construction Work, and Construction in the Southern Regions of the USSR, and the underestimation of the importance of this work by the leadership of the said ministries, the CPSU Central Committee instructed ministers Comrades Mayorets, Lukonin, Bakin, and Shchepetilnikov immediately to adopt effective measures to staff energy construction sites and projects nearing commissioning with skilled workers and engineering and technical cadres and supply them fully with construction structures and materials, equipment, and machinery. They were warned of their personal responsibility for ensuring the commissioning of the new energy capacities planned for 1987. The USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for the Fuel and Energy Complex and the USSR Gosstroy are instructed to establish strict monitoring of the timely fulfillment of these measures.

The USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification and the USSR Ministry of Nuclear Power are set the target of drawing up and implementing a package of additional measures ensuring the completion by 1 November of the high-quality repair of equipment for power stations and electricity and heating systems and their preparation for work in winter conditions. Particular attention is to be paid to the acceleration of repair work at electricity network facilities in rural localities with a view to ensuring reliable electricity supplies for enterprises and organizations of the agro-industrial complex.

Union Republic Communist Party Central Committees, kraykoms and obkoms on whose territories power stations and other power facilities are being built and are operating are instructed to step up organizational and political work in the power workers' and power industry construction workers' labor collectives and to give them practical assistance in the fulfillment of construction and repair work by enlisting workers and specialists from enterprises and organizations where possible.

The CPSU Central Committee drew to the attention of ministers Comrades Velichko, Anfimov, Lukyanenko, and Shkabardnya the hiccups that have occurred in the delivery of equipment to power industry construction sites scheduled for completion and spare parts for the repair of power units at electricity stations and the poor quality and incomplete nature of the equipment supplied, and demanded that they complete no later than September the full provision of equipment to the power facilities due for commissioning. It instructed Comrade Kolpakov, USSR Minister of Ferrous Metallurgy, to draw up and implement concrete measures to eliminate the systematic nonfulfillment of the plan for deliveries of rolled metal products and pipes under the contracts concluded for these projects, as well as for power machine building enterprises.

The CPSU Central Committee deemed it intolerable that the USSR Gosplan and USSR Gossnab are not taking proper measures to ensure that the population are more fully supplied with high-grade coal and logs, especially in rural localities, as a result of which some regions experience a shortage of household fuel. They were instructed, together with the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, and other interested ministries and departments, to examine this question and allocate to republican organs, out of savings from production capital, the necessary quantity of fuel taking into account the increase in the issuing of fuel to the population from 1 January 1988.

Union Republic Communist Party Central Committees, kraykoms, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, and ministry and department party committees are instructed to improve the standard of organization and monitoring of fulfillment of party and government decisions on preparing sectors of the national economy, especially facilities in the housing and municipal sector, enterprises and organizations in the fuel, energy and agro-industrial complexes, and transport, for work in winter conditions.

The attention of party committees was drawn to the need to react sharply to the existing shortcomings in the implementation of prewinter measures, put an end to the formal, bureaucratic approach to resolving the tasks set, steadily increase the responsibility of economic leaders for the task in hand, and display sensitivity and concern in considering working people's complaints and requests.

The USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the editorial offices of central, sector, and local newspapers are instructed to cover more widely questions connected with the preparation of the national economy for winter, to publicize leading experience in depth and in concrete terms, implacably to combat shortcomings in this matter, and to come out more actively for the strengthening of power supplies for production and daily life.

Talyzin Reports To Plan, Budget Commission

LD211646 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1300 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] The first plenary session of the planning-and-budget commissions, with the participation of other standing commissions of the chambers of the USSR

Supreme Soviet, was held in the Kremlin today. Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, and Comrade Gostev, USSR minister of finance presented reports. The order and time for examining the draft plan and budget for the year 1988, the progress of plan fulfillment for the year 1987, and the execution of the budget for 1986 were set. For this purpose 18 joint preparatory commissions have been formed.

Organization meetings of the preparatory commissions were also held; work plans were confirmed and other issues relating to the preparation of the USSR Supreme Soviet session were discussed.

Action Taken Following August Train Crash

PM181357 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Sep 87 First Edition p 6

[Interview with A.N. Bevzenko, first deputy minister of railways, by correspondent V. Romanchin under the rubric "We Report the Details: What Led to Tragedy"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] The Politburo recently examined the report of the government commission which investigated the causes of the train crash which occurred this August at the Southeast Railroad's Kamenskaya Station. Our correspondent talked with A.N. Bevzenko, first deputy minister of railways and chairman of the expert commission which worked at the scene of the disaster. [passage omitted]

[Romanchin] Probably it is now possible to speak of the consequences of the accident, is it not?

[Bevzenko] The Kamenskaya disaster was the biggest in recent years. Some 300 meters of track was damaged, and a 15-meter-high obstruction made up of derailed cars was formed in the station's southern neck. Traffic on the very busy section between Likhaya and Georgiu-Dezh was interrupted for more than 3 days. The material damage totaled R1.5 million. But the people's deaths were the gravest loss.

[Romanchin] Who was responsible for the disaster?

[Bevzenko] Having examined the materials of the investigation and the technical experts' conclusion, the Railways Ministry Collegium considered the tragic occurrence at Kamenskaya Station a very grave setback in the work of railroad transport. All those to blame for the accident have been severely punished. The following have been dismissed: A.S. Goliusov, chief of the Southeast Railroad; B.G. Panchenko, his deputy and railroad inspector for traffic safety; E.V. Mitin, railroad deputy chief; N.I. Rakitin, chief of the railroad car service; and N.S. Dolgov, chief of the Likhovskoy section. A number of main administration chiefs have also been dismissed and had party proceedings instituted against them.

[Romanchin] Albert Nikolayevich, we are all long-distance train passengers, and we naturally cannot fail to be alarmed at the problems of ensuring traffic safety in railroad transport. What conclusions has the Ministry of Railways drawn from what happened, and what measures does it plan to take in this connection?

[Bevzenko] After analyzing the circumstances of the crash, we reached the conclusion that it was made possible as the result of a lack of order both on the Likhovskoy section and on the entire Southeast Railroad as a whole. Crashes and accidents occur there every year, and there is a lot of slipshod work. Just one fact: This year 25 trains have been sent out from Likhaya Station with a blocked brake line. The standard of labor discipline is also low on the Southeast Railroad. During the first half of the year there were almost 2,600 cases of absenteeism there, and 820 of them were associated with alcohol consumption.

A whole system of measures aimed at ensuring complete traffic safety in transport was drawn up and approved at the last ministry collegium session. We will instill order and discipline in the most decisive way, we will take the strictest measures against violators of the current regulations, and we will enhance the vigilance of the militarized guard in order to restrict access to rolling stock for unauthorized persons. A tragedy like the Kamenskaya one must never be repeated.

Ukraine CP Conference Views Restructuring

LD181027 Kiev in Ukrainian to Europe 1315 GMT 16 Sep 87

[Text] A conference-seminar took place 15 September in the Ukraine Communist Party Central Committee. It was attended by secretaries of oblast party committees and leaders and secretaries of party organizations of economic departments of the Ukraine SSR. Tasks of the party committees in implementing the decisions of the June 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum on fundamental restructuring in the management of the economy and also recommendations on this question put forward at a recent conference-seminar in the CPSU Central Committee were discussed.

The conference thoroughly analyzed the state of affairs in the republic's national economy and the implementation of party and state decisions adopted after the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum for speeding up economic and social development.

It was stressed that the most acute problem today is to combine economic reform with the fulfilment of tasks of the 12th 5-Year Plan period. This obliges party committees more swiftly to overcome the force of inertia and outdated methods and approaches, to occupy themselves more deeply and subjectively with matters of the economy, to step up the activity of party committees and primary party organizations in correcting the lag that has occurred in some sectors, and to raise their responsibility for work in the collective. It was noted that the introduction of the Law on the State Enterprise of 1 January 1988 and the transfer of associations and enterprises to full financial autonomy will not in itself bring success if financial autonomy does not penetrate the entire production structure from top to bottom. Meanwhile, team financial autonomy is being introduced badly. In the republic's industry, only 2.9 percent of teams are working in conditions of contracting, which is the highest form of running internal production and financial matters. One of the reasons for this is that a quarter are not coping with plans for profits and a fifth of enterprises are not coping with tasks for production costs. There are still many enterprises incurring losses in Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zhitomir, Transcarpathia, Zaporozhye, Sumy, and a number of other oblasts.

Anxiety was expressed about the slow course of restructuring the system of payment for work in conformity with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the AUCCTU of 17 September 1986.

(?In order to raise the production level, it is necessary) to make more active use of the description and rationalization of workplaces and to overcome the dependence mood of many managers in the matter of finding money for financing the pay packets.

Special attention was paid to questions of a speedy solution in labor collectives of the main points of the reform and elaborating and promptly bringing to enterprises all economic norms.

It was noted that in the new conditions the role and tasks of territorial management bodies grow substantially. In the creation in oblasts of main economic production administrations it is essential to strive to simplify organizational structures and reduce the management apparatus as a whole throughout the region.

Speaking before the participants in the conference were: Fokin, deputy chairman of the Ukraine SSR Council of Ministers, chairman of the Ukraine SSR State Planning Committee; Chumachenko, director of the Industrial Economics Institute of the Ukraine SSR Academy of Sciences, academician of the Ukraine SSR Academy of Sciences; Nedashkovskiy, chairman of the Ukraine SSR State Committee on Prices; (Kovalenko), Ukraine SSR first deputy minister of finance; (Buryak), chief of the Ukrainian republican bureau of the USSR State Bank; (Vasilchenko), first deputy chairman of the Ukraine SSR State Committee for Labor; Troyan, chairman of the Ukraine SSR Central Statistical Administration; and (Matviyenko), chief of the Ukrainian republican bureau of the USSR Stroybank.

Voronenko, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine [name and title as received], spoke at the conference.

PRAVDA Reports Continued Drunkenness

PM181141 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Sep 87 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee has recently been examining the results of checks on the work to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism in a number of parts of the country, including the Karelian ASSR, Krasnodar Kray, and Poltava Oblast.

It has been established that the leaders of party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol, and other public organizations and economic organs in these regions, having achieved certain positive results, have become complacent and relaxed their attention to the organization of the work to fulfill the CPSU Central Committee resolutions on overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism. In the struggle to assert a sober way of life they have failed to ensure a comprehensive approach or to combine political-educational, preventive, and administrative measures. The responsibility of leading cadres, Communists, soviet standing commissions, deputy groups and posts, and the public at large has been reduced. The commissions to combat drunkenness and alcoholism have been working in a formal fashion, and certain of them have ceased their activities altogether. The importance of a differentiated approach toward different population groups and individual work with people is being underestimated.

In the autonomous republic, kray, and oblast there is still a high level of liquor consumption, and recently the reduction of liquor production and sales has slowed. Thus, in the first 6 months of this year sales of certain types of alcoholic drinks rose and there was a sharp increase in sales of vodka, brandy, and sparkling wine in the public catering system in Poltava Oblast in comparison with the same period last year. In the first 6 months of the year 13 percent more wine was sold than in the same period last year. This year the trade network for liquor sales in the kray has been expanded 21 percent and restrictions on the sale of alcoholic drinks in restaurants have been lifted. In the first 6 months of 1987 wine, brandy, and sparkling wine sales in Sochi City increased substantially. In the Karelian ASSR a coupon system for the sale of alcoholic drinks was illegally introduced, which considerably reduced the effectiveness of the struggle against drunkenness.

The efforts of party, soviet, and economic organs to expand production of nonalcoholic drinks and consumer goods and to step up the volume of consumer services to the population have been inadequate. As a result the losses in trade turnover from the reduction in liquor sales have not been fully made up.

Cases have come to light where the leaders of local organs have failed to take a principled stance when coordinating targets for the production and sale of alcoholic drinks and sometimes promoted an increase in them in comparison with previous actual levels. Thus, applications from Krasnodar Kray trade organizations for wine and brandy sales in 1987 were 61 and 72 percent higher respectively than their actual sales level in 1986. In the first 6 months of this year State Agro-Industrial Committee and consumer cooperative enterprises in the kray produced 2.34 million liters of low-grade fruit and berry wines, despite the fact that, in accordance with party and government resolutions on the struggle against drunkenness, the state plan did not provide for their production in 1987.

Particular alarm is generated by the dissemination of moonshining in the aforesaid regions. In Poltava Oblast, for instance, 36,000 illicit stills have been confiscated from the population over the past 2 years. The use of sugar for moonshine causes stoppages in sugar sales, which leads to justifiable complaints from people.

An atmosphere of intolerance toward drunkenness has not been created in many labor collectives. The number of people arriving at work drunk is not falling. In the first 6 months of this year more than 3,500 people who arrived at work intoxicated were detained in the Karelian ASSR alone. Cases of drunkenness are often covered up and a considerable number of cases of violations of the antialcohol legislation are not dealt with properly.

Nor has there been any reduction in the number of drink-related crimes. For this reason crime has risen in 19 of the 33 cities and rayons of Poltava Oblast recently. In Krasnodar Kray 42 percent of murders, 35 percent of cases of grievous bodily harm, and one in four robberies are carried out under the influence of drink. The number of crimes committed by people under the influence of drink has increased in most regions of the Karelian ASSR. The number of road accidents caused by drunk drivers and pedestrians in the area has increased by more than 25 percent.

Serious shortcomings have been recorded in the work of the law enforcement organs. There have often been cases of law enforcement organ workers taking a liberal or conniving attitude to people guilty of violations of antialcohol legislation. Moreover, there have even been cases of drunkenness among workers at these organs themselves. Thus, proceedings were initiated against 232 militia workers in Krasnodar Kray in 1986 for the use of liquor.

Preventive educational work by health care organs has been relaxed, its professional standard is low, and the potential of antialcohol treatment has not been fully exploited everywhere. Questions of the staffing and improvement of the qualifications of physicians in drug addiction services have been poorly resolved. In Karelia and Krasnodar Kray a considerable proportion of drug addiction offices are in makeshift premises.

Cases of drunkenness among CPSU members as well as instances of liberal attitudes to leaders guilty of violating the antialcohol legislation have not been eradicated. In the Karelian ASSR 279 Communists, including 10 leaders of enterprises and organizations, were detained in a state of inebriation last year. However, they did not all face the appropriate proceedings. In Poltava Oblast there were 5,700 cases of liquor being consumed at work, but only in 278 cases were the officials tasked with putting a stop to these violations punished.

Educational work has been neglected in many working people's collectives and at their places of residence. Party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations in the autonomous republic, kray, and oblast are not taking effective measures to improve it or to involve the population—especially young people—to the greatest possible extent in physical fitness and sports or the organization of seemly and healthy leisure activity. The voluntary societies in the struggle for sobriety have been passive. In certain regions which have been formally declared "sobriety zones" the population's participation in asserting a healthy way of life has not been ensured, and liquor is sometimes even on sale.

Antialcohol propaganda has not been made systematic or offensive. Features in the mass media, particularly local newspapers, radio, and television are not very comprehensible or persuasive. Reports and lectures sometimes fail to reveal the enormous economic and moral damage that drunkenness does to families, society, and people's health. The positive experience of the struggle against drunkenness has been poorly disseminated. Many physicians, teachers, workers at cultural, enlightenment, and health care institutions, and party and labor veterans are still standing aside from this important nationwide work. Scientific methodological materials, posters, booklets, and other texts are rarely utilized and very few are published, which explains why they essentially fail to reach working people's collectives.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee has brought a number of leaders of party, soviet, and trade union organizations in the Karelian ASSR, Krasnodar Kray, and Poltava Oblast to strict account for the shortcomings they have permitted in organizing the struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism. Their statements that the noted shortcomings will be eradicated and the CPSU Central Committee resolutions on overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism will be unconditionally fulfilled have been placed on record.

Narcology Administration Chief Interviewed

PM181245 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 16 Sep 87 p 5

[Interview with V. Yegorov, chief of the USSR Health Ministry Narcology Administration, by S. Korepanov: "To Divert Misfortune From Man"; first paragraph is editorial introduction; date and place of interview not stated]

[Text] An international conference on the struggle against narcotics abuse and illegal trafficking has been held in the Austrian capital under UN auspices. Organizations from more than 130 countries participated in its work. V. Yegorov, chief of the USSR Health Ministry Narcology Administration and a member of the Soviet delegation, speaks of the problems discussed at that forum:

[Yegorov] The very fact that the conference was organized by the UN leadership indicates that the use of narcotics in many countries has assumed a very serious nature.

Narcotics are now a commodity in demand on the capitalist market, and there is a guaranteed demand for them, unlike for other commodities: Someone who has tried a narcotic frequently becomes a constant user of it.

[Korepanov] What is the situation in our country?

[Yegorov] According to USSR Health Ministry data, there are approximately 50,000 drug addicts in our country.

In recent years the narcotics "fashion" has, unfortunately, affected us too. We have a lot of evidence that, in pursuit of "fashion," young people are eager to try narcotics and then try themselves to manufacture them or to get them by illegal means. Militia organs are now doing active work to bring to light narcotics shipment channels.

[Korepanov] As already reported in the press, in recent years our customs services have seized several narcotics containers in transit across our country.

[Yegorov] This may be considered our contribution to the international struggle against illegal narcotics trafficking. Since the USSR is an active partner in international trade and the volume of transit freight crossing our country is increasing yearly, our customs services need more accurate and effective monitoring means to detect narcotics, and other countries' experience must be taken into account.

During the conference specialists from our country were able to familiarize themselves with the best examples of foreign technology which make it possible both to detect narcotics and to monitor persons involved in such trade.

[Korepanov] What conclusions did the Vienna conference participants arrive at?

[Yegorov] The draft international plan approved by all the government delegations puts forward a broad action program for national, regional, and international organizations in the struggle against narcotics abuses through the year 2000.

Censure of the pernicious practice of dividing narcotics up into so-called "soft" (supposedly posing no danger to health) and "hard" narcotics is an important aspect of that document.

Methods of exposing illegal plantations of narcotic plants, including by using the results of aerial photographic surveys and data obtained from earth satellites, were submitted for consideration by the government delegations.

The connection between illegal narcotics trafficking, the weapons trade, and international terrorism was also pointed up. This also applies in full to the criminal activities of the Afghan dushmans, who have developed uncontrolled heroin production in exchange for weapons and ammunition in Pakistan's North-east [as published] Frontier Province.

[Korepanov] What place in the struggle against drug addiction is allocated to the mass media?

[Yegorov] Since radio, television, and the press have daily contact with an audience of many millions, we call for close cooperation, that is, for the joint elaboration of programs to prevent drug addiction, to publicize the facts about narcotics abuses, and to propagandize a healthy way of life.

Krasnodar Law Officers' Misdeeds Punished

PM181645 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Sep 87 Second Edition p 1

[Article by B. Kibirev, secretary of Krasnodar CPSU Kraykom, under the rubric "Response to Criticism: 'Sentence for Prosecutor'"]

[Text] The CPSU kraykom has examined the article "Sentence for Prosecutor" published in *Sovetskaya Rossiya* 14 June this year. The article raised in a well-substantiated manner the question of gross violations of socialist legality in the activities of the kray's law-enforcement organs and correctly covered individual facts of the illegal conviction of innocent persons and of the use of unlawful methods of conducting an investigation with regard to them.

Thus, V. Shchegol, former prosecutor of Krasnodar City's Oktyabrskiy Rayon, and A. Kegeyan, senior investigator for the same prosecutor's office, used illegal methods of conducting an investigation to institute criminal proceedings for murder and arrested G. Abolmasov, who was sentenced to death. Subsequently his innocence was established, and he was released from custody.

In the city of Labinsk violations of socialist legality were committed during the investigation and court examination of the criminal case of V. Novoseltsev, against whom criminal proceedings were groundlessly instituted for murder and who was sentenced to a long term of imprisonment.

During the examination of the article the reasons for the said violations of socialist legality were studied, measures were taken to prevent similar manifestations in the future, and strict proceedings were instituted against guilty prosecutor's office, militia, and court workers. V. Shchegol and A. Kegeyan have been dismissed from the prosecutor's office organs and sentenced to corrective work. V. Shchegol has been expelled from the CPSU. I. Kekalo, kray deputy prosecutor, and I. Gluzmin, prosecutor of the kray prosecutor's office investigation administration, have been dismissed from their posts, and P. Smirnov, senior assistant prosecutor for Krasnodar City's Oktyabrskiy Rayon, has been dismissed from the prosecutor's office organs. In all, proceedings have been instituted against nine prosecutor's office and investigative workers for violations of legality with regard to G. Abolmasov's case. G. Vdovichenko, member of the kray court, under whose chairmanship that criminal case was examined, has been given a severe reprimand with an endorsement of his CPSU member's report card.

It has been established that in the course of the investigation S. Grigoryev, chief of Labinsk City Rayon Internal Affairs Department Criminal Investigation Department, used illegal methods, for which he has been dismissed from the internal affairs organs, been expelled from the party, and had criminal proceedings instituted against him. The kray court is currently examining the case against Grigoryev. Severe reprimands with endorsement of report cards have been issued against Communist G. Fonarev, former investigator of the interrayon prosecutor's office, who was working recently on the Labinsk CPSU Gorkom apparatus, and against Communist V. Blokhnin, deputy interrayon prosecutor, who were directly involved in the illegal arrest of V. Novoseltsev. G. Fonarev has been dismissed from his post as CPSU gorkom inspector. O. Kotlyarov, chairman of Labinsk City People's Court, has been severely reprimanded along party lines. Yu. Lapkin, former Labinsk interrayon prosecutor, now working as chief of a kray prosecutor's office department, has been severely reprimanded in service and has incurred a party penalty.

Work has been done to enhance the responsibility of kray law-enforcement organs. Measures have been taken to strengthen the leadership of the kray court.

A routine CPSU kraykom plenum heard reports from Kray Prosecutor B. Rybnikov and M. Razin, chief of the krayispolkom internal affairs administration, on the work they are doing to strengthen socialist legality and law and order in the kray. During the discussion of the reports a sharp, principled assessment was made of cases of violations of legality in the activities of law-enforcement organ workers, and measures were outlined to eliminate those shortcomings, for strict observance of legality, and to strengthen law and order in the kray.

Latvian CP Bureau Views Patriotic Education

PM180930 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 11 Sep 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau has examined the *Sovetskaya Latviya* publication "Loyalty to Duty" of 8 September 1987, in which urgent questions connected with the military-patriotic and international education of young people are raised. The problems it touches on were deemed to be urgent and worthy of serious attention and immediate practical actions by party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs.

In the resolution adopted the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau has instructed gorkoms and raykoms, gorispolkoms, and rayispolkoms to implement additional measures to step up military-patriotic and international education, measures aimed at strengthening the sense of friendship and fraternity which unites all nations and ethnic groups of the USSR, the development of a high standard of contact between nations, and intolerance of manifestations of nationalism, chauvinism, national narrowmindedness, and national egotism. It is necessary purposefully to develop in young people a sense of Soviet patriotism, and to cultivate a clear class position in the evaluation of events, an awareness of high personal responsibility for the defense of the motherland, and a desire to strengthen its economic and defense might through one's own labor. Particular attention should be devoted to participation in public life by the internationalist servicemen who have taken part in combat operations in the DRA.

Gorkoms and raykoms, gorispolkoms, rayispolkoms, the Latvian Republican Trade Unions Council, and primary party and trade union organizations are instructed to regard the resolution of questions connected with the labor, study, and daily life of internationalist servicemen as a task of particular political importance. It is necessary resolutely to eradicate formalism and bureaucracy with regard to their requests and proposals, to give a strict and principled assessment of every instance of red tape or a bureaucratic, impersonal attitude, and to take party proceedings against those guilty of this. The need was stressed to give prompt and full information to every collective in which internationalist servicemen are working and studying about their combat career and services to the motherland.

The Latvian Komsomol Central Committee must make its work on the military-patriotic and international education of young people lively and creative. Empty show and pompous mass events that depersonalize young men and women's real feelings and aspirations should be excluded from the practice of Komsomol life. It is important to channel the work of youth associations, international friendship clubs, study groups, and museums and rooms of combat glory into the cultivation in young people of a sense of Soviet patriotism and an awareness of civic responsibility for continuing the older generations' traditions. Komsomol organizations should complete the formation of clubs and other associations for servicemen in the reserve, play an active part in their activity, and channel it into improving the preparation of young people for army service and the development of high civic and moral qualities in them.

The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau instructed a number of republican ministries and departments to define measures to radically improve the military-patriotic and international education of young people and promptly resolve social issues in the life of internationalist servicemen.

The republican mass media and the Latvian SSR State Committees for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade and Cinematography are instructed to give wider coverage to the participation of Soviet servicemen in the fulfillment of their international duty, and to prepare materials on their work and social activity after service in the Soviet Army.

'Jamming' of Broadcasts Discussed

LD211148 Moscow International Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 20 Sep 87

[Text] [First announcer] Why is it that the Russian-language broadcasts of the West European and U.S. radio station are jammed, while Soviet radio broadcasts to the West can be listened to freely, a listener asks?

[Second announcer] Listeners who have asked this question no doubt do not have the requisite information. The broadcasts of the Voice of America and its West European colleagues, for example the BBC, are no longer jammed. However, jamming continues of the diversionary Radio Liberty, beamed from Munich, which is directly under CIA control and which has no official status.

It has to be seen that the free reception of the broadcasts of the Voice of America or the BBC reflects exclusively the good will of Moscow. In fact there is still every basis for jamming the programs of these stations, for the simple reason that they violate the rules of international broadcasting. They make crude interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs.

One of the basic principles of international broadcasting, as is well known, is to speak about ourselves and to express our views regarding various problems. This principle was by no means observed by the Voice of America when in August it launched a series of programs in which it incited the Baltic Soviet population to anti-Soviet actions, indicating precisely when and where they should hold such movements. The demonstration, however, did not achieve the anticipated success.

It would be very odd if the programs of Moscow radio were suddenly jammed, since we do not permit ourselves, either now or at any other time, either on this or any other wavelengths, to interfere in the affairs of other states. Nor do we consider this to be necessary.

PRAVDA Profiles Victim of 1930's Purges

PM181411 [Editorial Report] Moscow *Pravda* in Russian on 18 September 1987 in its Second Edition carries on page 6 a 1,300-word article by V. Glagolev entitled "Worker of the Revolution: On the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of P.P. Postyshev." The article gives a biographical sketch of Postyshev, noting that he was born into a textile worker's family and that he was a "talented Bolshevik organizer and propagandist who wholeheartedly devoted his remarkable revolutionary abilities to the socialist cause." He is also described as a "professional revolutionary and one of the leaders of the Bolshevist underground." The article describes his role in the revolution and the Civil War, and concludes with the following passage:

"It was 1935. The Seventh All-Union Congress of Soviets was deciding on the formulation of the new USSR Constitution. P.P. Postyshev was a member of the special commission. He was at the peak of his creative abilities. As candidate member of the All-Union Communist Party (Bolshevik) Central Committee Politburo and member of the USSR Central Executive Committee Presidium he took part in resolving all the most important questions of the country's domestic and international life. But the tragedy of 1937 did not spare him. Postyshev's attempt to protect unlawfully accused people against repression led to Pavel Petrovich himself being charged with conniving with 'hostile elements.' The life of this remarkable revolutionary was cut short in December 1939. In the people's memory P.P. Postyshev has always remained a tireless Bolshevik and ardent fighter for socialism."

Readers View Article on Glasnost, Patriotism

PM160801 [Editorial Report] Moscow *Pravda* in Russian on 7 September 1987 in its Second Edition carries on page 3 under the headline "'We Are Given a Motherland Once, Until Death Itself...' Responses To An Article: Reflections, Viewpoints, Polemics" a three-quarter page feature comprising an editorial introduction to readers' letters in commenting on an eponymous article by Vera Tkachenko in the 21 August issue of *Pravda*. Eleven of the 13 letters quoted at length in the feature express agreement with the sentiments of the original article.

V. Kryuchkov from Moscow writes, in part: "Criticism of shortcomings is necessary, of course, but it must not be an end in itself, and if criticism meets with the approval of bourgeois figures in the West, this, I think, should make us wary."

Party veteran Z. Levit from Leningrad expresses her "joy" at Tkachenko's article. She writes that glasnost, although "necessary," has "two sides—a positive and a negative. Yes, people must know the truth about their country's past, but for that they must have a firm life stance, which by no means everyone has acquired, not everyone has managed to pass the test of increased prosperity and to preserve their 'living soul.' The consequence has been alarming symptoms of exaggeration and philistine relishing of difficult and bitter events in the people's life, repressions, and so forth." Levit also declares that "writers and journalists must be aware of their tremendous responsibility and in the pursuit of cheap success must not present the man in the street with 'instant facts'—this is extremely dangerous, especially for young people, who are sometimes quite unprepared for assimilating and correctly assessing such information."

L. Belova from Uralsk agrees, "with regard to dissidents," that "some people are using democracy and glasnost for their own ends." However, Belova also criticizes those who embellish the past while exaggerating present difficulties: "Why distort the truth?" she asks.

A. Kravchenko from Lvov writes: "Recently many critics have been running everything down as though they were aloof observers and everything that has been or is being done does not affect them at all, while their task is to denigrate and besmirch. The question is, how do they perceive glasnost? Glasnost is the rational coverage of our deeds in the interests of strengthening the motherland and enhancing its prestige. Thus the interests of the motherland must be the basis for all actions. But what we see is a sort of competition to find out who can pour the greatest amount of scorn on the country. It seems that everything we did was wrong. One article even went so far as to say that during the Great Patriotic War our soldiers went into attack with our own machineguns trained on them to intimidate them while another article said that industrialization should have not have proceeded at such a fast pace, that collectivization was virtually a mistake, and that the kulak did not represent a real danger and should have been left alone."

A. Konev, an engineer from Yaroslavl, writes in support of a view of history which is not "romanticized, a succession of achievements, but a living history, one which is often raw and not simply heroic (remember Babel!), with mistakes, with justice but injustices too. To pretend that this is not so is, to say the least, impractical: We are thereby deliberately condemning ourselves to repeat past mistakes in the future." He continues: "If we are a vital and healthy people—and I do not doubt that fact—we must mercilessly reveal the many sores which have formed on the motherland's sacred body." Unless that is done, Konev believes, restructuring will be "an empty show."

A. Matveyev from Kuybyshev writes on the theme of patriotism that "showing sympathy and love for the motherland and giving it effective help must not be accompanied by pardoning the actions of those who harmed it, regardless of when that occurred.

"History does not tolerate untruths. The actions of those past years must be assessed correctly."

I. Tronov, a worker from Riga, argues that "there is no need to advertise love for the motherland. Love for the motherland is a sacred inner concept. Everyone has his own personal idea of it. It has always been a beautiful concept, at all times, but there have also been monstrously vile crimes. They were discussed quite forthrightly at the 20th party congress and again since then."

I. Savelyev, an economist from Moscow, regrets that "during the years of stagnation we lost much of what had previously been achieved in patriotic education, as in ideological work as a whole." He goes on: "The recent demonstrations in the Baltic republics devoted to the 'victims of Stalinism' were, I am sure, fueled not only by Voice of America but also by certain people raised on our own soil.

"Fortunately, we know our motherland's history not just from 'One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich' or 'Children of the Arbat.' The people know considerably more about it from 'Ten Days Which Shook The World,' for example, and from the thousands of historical and documentary works, memoirs, artistic works, prerevolutionary and Soviet writers, journalists, and other sources. The names of the great Lenin, Kirov, Ordzhonikidze, Rudzutak, and other heroes well known to all and those less well known are eternally dear to us, they are the flesh and blood of their people, they lived their lives in accordance with their duty to their people and their motherland, their supreme duty. Their deeds have been perpetuated and continued in our deeds and our successes as the supreme tribute to the exploit of their lives and the motherland has never betrayed its sons and daughters."

B. Kuborskiy from Moscow takes Tkachenko to task. "The article calls for a revival of love for the motherland. The author is concerned that the policy of glasnost and the current criticism of shortcomings demonstrate a weakening of the sense of patriotism, if not among all Soviet people then at least among some journalists. I believe that this is wrong.

"Soviet people nowadays show no less patriotism than before. They display it every day, in the factories, plants, and fields of the country, in the laboratories, and on the construction sites. A fine example of patriotism and love for the motherland is set by our young servicemen performing their internationalist duty in Afghanistan. When the author begins preaching piously about a revival of love for the motherland, her tone is bewildering. What is the point, for example, of expressions such as 'Give thanks for the honor of being called its son and for the difficult happiness of serving it'...

"To whom are these appeals addressed? She gives no specific name. In reply to the nameless appeal I should like to say: You have no grounds for accusing Soviet people of having short memories or of having lost their pride in the people's great deeds in conquering space and many other achievements. But the party, supported by the entire people, when beginning the restructuring of our whole material and spiritual life, was simply obliged to analyze critically our society's past mistakes because restructuring means breaking with the everything which prevents society from living a socialist life. Democracy and glasnost are the essential conditions of building socialism. The only opponents of this are those who pay lipservice to restructuring while making every effort to slow it down. Such people are not hard to see."

A. Makarov from Orel writes that "everything—good and bad—belongs to the motherland. The task of every true patriot is to devote every effort to making the motherland more beautiful, improving it, and eradicating the bad."

The final letter is from labor veterans I. Dulskiy and L. Dulskaya of Yalta. They declare that they "share every line" of Tkachenko's article, lament the acquisitiveness that has become rife in society in recent years, and call for greater attention toward "the inculcation of moral principles."

Economic

Management Reform Commission Meets

PM210935 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 38, Sep 87 (Sig Press 10 Sep 87) p 14

[Unattributed report: "In the Commission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Mechanism"]

[Text] The Commission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Mechanism set up by resolution of the USSR Council of Ministers has examined the question of the program for transferring construction industry organizations to full economic accountability [khozyaystvennyy raschet]. Approval was given to the program submitted by the USSR Gosstroy for switching all construction, maintenance construction, and installation organizations under construction, industrial, and nonindustrial ministries and departments and of enterprises under construction ministries and departments to full economic accountability and self-financing in 1987-1989.

The bulk of construction organizations will be transferred to full economic accountability and self-financing from 1 January 1988. Approval was given to a list of standard methodological and normative documents which are being elaborated and will lay down the general principles of work by construction organizations in conditions of full economic accountability and self-financing.

A Subcommission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Mechanism in the Construction Industry Complex was formed for the purpose of preparing and implementing measures aimed at comprehensively developing the system of administration and economic management in the construction industry. The subcommission's personnel have been determined, and its work will proceed according to plans elaborated in light of the targets set by the USSR Council of Ministers and the Commission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Mechanism.

Approval was given to Regulations for Planning and Economic Incentives for Motor Vehicle Transport Associations and Enterprises in the Construction Industry Operating in Conditions of the New Methods of Economic Management.

The commission examined questions concerning the transfer to full economic accountability and self-financing of enterprises under the USSR Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the USSR Ministry of Railways, the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation, the USSR Ministry of Communications, the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry, and the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry. Approval was given to regulations reflecting the specific sectorial features of the work of enterprises under these ministries.

The commission's session approved Regulations on the Experiment To Improve Production Training and Practice for Students at Industrial Teacher Training Technical Colleges under the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education in Production Training Workshops, Enterprises, and Economic Organizations in 1987-1989. Approval was also given to Standard Regulations on Bonus Payments to Officials from the Central Apparatus of the Tsentrosoyuz and Union Republic Potrebsoyuzes in Respect of the Main Results of Economic Activity.

The commission examined the results of production-financial activity by enterprises (associations) under the USSR Ministry of Light Industry. It was noted that the level of economic work at many enterprises remains low. Some 20 percent of the total number of enterprises exceeded output prime cost to the tune of R154 million during the first 6 months of 1987. Compared with the same period last year, fines for the failure to deliver output in line with concluded contracts and for unsatisfactory product quality increased by 80 percent during the first 6 months, and the profits plan was not fulfilled.

The commission ordered the USSR Ministry of Light Industry to implement additional measures to ensure that its subordinate enterprises fulfill to the maximum the trade network's orders for the production and delivery of goods in the required range and of high quality, guarantee complete fulfillment of concluded contracts, mobilize the sector's reserves in order to further reduce output prime cost and secure profit growth, and prevent changes in the normatives set for enterprises. The USSR Ministry of Finance was instructed to review in individual cases questions of providing financial assistance to the sector's enterprises from above-plan budget payments of turnover tax in respect of the additional production and sales of light industry goods.

Progress in the elaboration of economic normatives for ministries was discussed. The commission agreed with the proposal of the ministries which have switched to full economic accountability and self-financing on granting in 1987-1990 credits for retooling, reconstruction, and expansion of production to enterprises (associations) which have insufficient resources of their own to form a fund for the development of production, science, and technology, with subsequent repayment from this fund and from the enterprises' financial reserves. The appropriate ministry must guarantee the repayment of any credit facilities within the set time. The enterprises are to pay 0.5 percent annual interest for the use of these credit facilities.

The session examined the progress of preparations for the transition to full economic accountability and self-financing by enterprises (associations) under republican ministries and departments in the national economy's production sectors. It was noted that work to prepare for their transition as from 1988 is unsatisfactory. Union republic councils of ministers were instructed to speed up the elaboration of draft normative documents and their submission for the commission's approval.

Development Planning Termed 'Lacking'

PM181015 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Anatoliy Druzenko "Journalist's Notes": "A Glance Into the Future"]

[Text] Our economic life today is probably fuller, more varied, and, above all, more complex than ever before. Throwbacks to old approaches coexist with flashes of innovation, discussions continue unabated, economic managers are literally crying out about the obstacles which continue to hamper normal work, but, nonetheless, work continues and plans still have to be fulfilled as before. But some people, as before, are failing to meet delivery dates, so once again there is the temptation to amend the plan—and all this, take note, is happening in conditions of a radical reform of the economy which has only just started.

A transitional period is always a most difficult time and, with increasing urgency, it is posing the question: What will be tomorrow?

...I read the latest, August, edition of the journal *Voprosy Ekonomiki* and look for an answer to this question—which I fail to find. There are plenty of articles about the restructuring of the management of the national economy, but once again they are more about what is wrong with the old mechanism, and if constructive proposals are presented, they are more of a partial nature and an overall view of the future—a general outline of the potential and options of our economic development and its prospects, of what we must be prepared for and what "stumbling blocks" we may encounter—is, alas, lacking.

You gain the impression that economic science, even in the current conditions, which favors quests, discoveries, and revolutionary conclusions, continues to lag behind the practice of economic life. Practice itself is producing a mass of new forms which sometimes do not fit in with traditional notions. However, who if not scientists are to interpret all this with an eye to the future, and, incidentally, not just interpret it, but also point the way and forecast what should be developed and where, when, and on what scale. But no, you read the articles in the academic journal and you notice that scientists appear to be trying to convince themselves of the gravity of the tasks facing them: "requires profound scientific elaboration," "life is giving rise to new economic phenomena," "serious problem urgently requiring solution," "profound political and economic analysis is needed."

We could not agree more, it is needed! And has been needed for a long time! The demand is great. But where are the relevant proposals?..

In general, we seem to be incapable of making the connection between our current economic existence and the future. Here is a very simple example. Statisticians report regularly on the performance of the national economy during the past month, quarter, or 6 months. The results achieved are compared "with the corresponding period last year." Please note, "last" year. Naturally, it is useful to know whether we have progressed, are marking time, or have fallen behind. But what do the current results look like against the backdrop of our prospects? Say, in the context of the 5-year plan? We seem to remember the 5-year plan more when it is drawing to a close, and even then not in detail and with recourse to in-depth analysis. Yet it is important even today to have an idea how, given the current pace attained by the sector, association, or enterprise, we will cope with the targets set in the 5-year plan.

Getting to the root of the problem means, among other things, being able to assess the present from the viewpoint of the future.

Remember the remark of an eminent physicist to a young laboratory technician who spent virtually day and night in the laboratory: "But when do you find time to think?"

Plant Chief Notes Managers' Problems

PM181413 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by D. Yefimenkov, director of the Sverdlovsk Tire Plant, under the rubric "A Director's Monologue": "Without Quotation Marks"]

[Text] Sverdlovsk—I have worked as a director for several years now. I will admit that before that, while I attended to economic questions at the plant, I used to sometimes think: "If I were the director, I would..." Everything seems simpler from the outside. However, when I became director, I came to realize how much a certain much respected newspaper had exaggerated the prestige of this post. It emerged that the authority of a director is largely the authority of a distributor which is, furthermore, curtailed by stringent regulations and prohibitory clauses.

To be honest, it must be admitted that we have forgotten and not yet relearned again how to think, count, compare, and make the most of every kopeck. However, we must learn to be real managers, without the quotation marks, rather than "managers." Such are the times today. However, the quotations marks are hard to get rid of...

Over the past 18 months that we have been operating in the new conditions, and from January furthermore in conditions of complete economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing, I have caught myself thinking from time to time: What if suddenly everything reverts to square one and instead of working out how to forge ahead we will again have to make sure that we do not proceed with undue haste?.. There has been reason for such thoughts.

The plant has been working steadily and smoothly over the past 18 months. The rate of increase of profit has risen substantially—by 15.6 percent in 1986 against 1985, and by 13.2 percent over the first 6 months of the current year. Output sales plans including deliveries have been fulfilled. In view of the fact that we are the only plant in the Urals which produces truck and motor vehicle tires and pneumatic couplings for drilling installations, consumer interest in the smooth operation of the enterprise is understandable.

However, having started to work better, we find ourselves in a worse financial situation than ever before. Was it because we had enormous hidden reserves and were, without making an effort, getting more than we deserved?

Take one of the fundamental questions—the normatives. It is the normatives—precise and unshakable for the duration of the 5-year plan—which are called upon to set the tone of the economic life of an enterprise. They are the landmarks by means of which a traveler checks that he is "on course." It was assumed, for instance, that the normatives regulating the deductions from profit to be paid into the enterprise fund would, while consolidating the existing 5-year plan figures for the sector as a whole, take account of the actual situation within the sector of a given enterprise at a specific point in time. That is, the performance of an enterprise—good or bad, stable or otherwise—would be taken into account. After all, it has long been established that leveling benefits above all the slackers and workers without initiative who live at other people's expense.

What has happened is this. In the past, before the switch to self-financing, an enterprise could keep 70 percent of its above-plan profit. Now, when working for oneself should be encouraged even more, a plant has the right to keep only 30 percent.

Where did this normative come from? Maybe it has some very important economic meaning of which we are not aware? However, if this is the case, then does it not rather remind you of the old tune to the effect that people at the top know better? We, on the other hand, who are directly involved in the production of goods, know something else: Enterprises obtain above-plan profit largely as a result of incentive markups on wholesale prices for new, high-grade products. The essence itself of the material incentive in the form of a markup lies in the material compensation of the higher expenditure incurred in production. The R200,000-400,000 of additional profit were a reward in hard rubles for the plant's efforts. They made it possible to hand out additional incentives in the form of tourist vouchers and better equipment of the plant's hostels and to spend more money on the construction of housing.

A USSR Ministry of Finance instruction currently in force (No 7 of 20 March 1987) levels out the distribution of both above-plan and plan profit. What is the effect of this? On the one hand this provides an additional source of replenishing the budget. However, it is obvious that this kind of withdrawal of funds is bound to lead to reduced enterprise interest in improving output quality—after all, it means that they would have to pay the additional expenditure out of their own pocket.

What about the deduction normative? We have been "allocated" the right to deduct 0.3 percent to be paid into the wage fund for every 1 percent increase in net output. Why not 0.4, or 0.6 or 0.7 percent? Once again, it is incomprehensible. With only the 0.3 percent we literally go bust. As a result of this normative, the plant will "increase" its income by only R39,500 this year. However, merely the payments to pieceworkers for producing more tires will total 1.5 times that amount...

The following detail indicates that this normative has been set completely at random, on the basis of short-term considerations. Next door to us, across the road, so to speak, is the Sverdlovsk Industrial Rubber Goods Plant, which also comes under the jurisdiction of our ministry. Yet the normative set for this plant totals 0.7 percent. Maybe there is some kind of special conditions? Maybe their work is harder; maybe they have had to cope with some circumstances beyond their control? Nothing of the sort. Tried and tested noneconomic factors have been at work here—it is easier for the director of a bigger plant to gain access to the minister; it is easier for him to get what he wants, knowing that his plant's output accounts for a considerable share of the plan fulfillment of the ministry as a whole. The director of another enterprise is a Supreme Soviet deputy and yet another is a Hero of Socialist Labor... But all these, you will agree, are noneconomic factors!

What can we say to our workers today who earn considerably less than the people next door although their work is similar and their returns by no means smaller?

Why not set the level of deductions to be added to wages on a scale from 0.4 to 0.7? The normative can be set according to the level of profitability achieved. In that case the collective would truly earn its wages.

Today there is much talk about output quality and the need to radically improve it. There are many aspects to this question. Practical experience indicates that 10-20 percent of output quality depends on production workers, their skills, and technological discipline. For instance, there are similar enterprises in Chimkent, Nizhnekamsk, and Omsk. It is generally accepted that the Chimkent plant has the most modern foreign and Soviet-made equipment, the Nizhnekamsk plant has modern equipment, and the equipment in Omsk is mainly old. Yet what consumer, if he has the choice, will choose a Chimkent tire in preference to an Omsk tire which lasts twice as long? A high level of skill on the part of workers and collectives as a whole and a high standard of technological discipline is possible only with stable cadres. It is not just wages which help to retain cadres but also the standard of social and consumer conditions, and the availability of housing.

By means of normatives superior organs can ensure the healthy and full-blooded development of an enterprise and its collective. Or they can reduce its efforts to naught.

Money is needed, but, naturally, not as an end in itself. If we are allocated a normative for the formation of the sociocultural measures fund which has been "picked at random," this may jeopardize the construction of the pioneer camp which is so badly needed by the plant's collective. One stroke of the pen, someone's gross miscalculation, and unpredictable consequences follow... Another reason we find it difficult to get rid of the quotation marks in "management" is that our artificial ties to the center are stronger and the center is very unwilling to cede its positions.

Why is the problem of mutual relations between departments and territories constantly being discussed? It is because local soviets have no mutual economic relations with the enterprises that operate on their territory. Local budgets are formed regardless of the quality and quantity of their work. We are having to allocate (often outside the law) means for road maintenance, amenities, and the solution of other questions pertaining to social and living conditions. If firm and uniform deductions from profit to be paid into the local budget were laid down and a correlation established between the labor efficiency of an enterprise and the state of the soviet's budget, this would give the soviet an economic base and make possible mutual relations with it on an economic foundation.

We are vitally interested in this because earning money is only half the problem. The material backup for the earned financial means is no less important. Say this year we earned over a million rather than just over 700,000 for housing construction. We ourselves do not build. We go to the gorispolkom capital construction administration. But what good is our money without the necessary material backup? We managed to persuade them. But what now? We must pool our efforts. In order to obtain additional materials we have sent a number of workers to the Sverdlovsk plant for large-panel house-construction components to help with above-plan production.

This applies not only to housing; the situation is similar as regards all sociocultural projects. Today, when everyone is beginning to count money, arbitrary decisions—whether they concern construction, a vegetable base, or a kolkhoz—will be difficult to push through. What is needed is mutual economic understanding.

A new concept is being introduced—the state order which essentially replaces "requisitioning" ["prodrazverstka"] with a "tax in kind" enabling enterprises to build up a certain reserve of output for their own purposes. But what does it look like in practice?

The document detailing the state order for the delivery of goods, work to be done, and services to be provided, arrives and it contains virtually all the items of the old production program... It includes figures for tires broken down in detail for trucks and passenger cars, and tires for agricultural machinery which we have never produced and have no intention to produce! To make it look different, rollers for roller skates and another two or three minor items. Furthermore, the figures on the product list are interpreted with great liberty.

According to the 5-year plan we are supposed to produce 5,315,000 truck tires this year. We will produce 335 [as published] and possibly even more since the oblast agro-industrial committee has asked us to help the oblast road transport system. We have agreed, there is a mutual interest in this: The agro-industrial committee has promised in return to help us with the solution of certain social questions. Then suddenly we learn that our plan for 1986 is "being increased" despite the approved figures...

If, I repeat, this is being done because of some overriding considerations of which we are unaware, then why was the Law on the Enterprise adopted (which states specifically that all overriding considerations should come primarily from those who are directly involved in the production of the material values). If it is a case of miscalculations connected with the adjustment of the economic mechanism, then it is all the more necessary to bring them out into the open.

After all, it has happened more than once before that isolated miscalculations have quietly grown into a system...

Problems of Near-Insolvent Plant Viewed

PM210831 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 38, Sep 87 (Sig Press 10 Sep 87) p 8

[TASS correspondents V. Zlobin and A. Ignatyev article for EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA: "Lessons of Economic Accountability. How an Enterprise Found Itself on the Brink of Bankruptcy"]

[Text] Unpreparedness for the transition to self-financing resulted in continuous losses for the collective of the "Petrozavodskbummash" Association. The enterprise has now accumulated above-normative stocks of raw and other materials amounting to more than R10 million. The association owes R13 million to suppliers and R7 million to the Gosbank. Since there are no funds available to repay the debts, the association has found itself on the brink of financial collapse.

It cannot cover all its current expenditure, including labor remuneration, production expansion, and the collective's social development, from earned income.

"Now it is clear that we failed to prepare for work in the new conditions," M. Shestyuk, deputy director for economic questions, sadly admits. "Our management apparatus did not study the laws governing the operation of financial levers and incentives in conditions of self-financing. Here is the result: During the first 6 months we did not fulfill a single indicator apart from that of consumer goods production. The underfulfillment of the profits plan by R1,723,000 had especially grave consequences for the collective. Payments into the material incentives fund fell by R240,000, and payments into the social and cultural measures and housing construction fund by R627,000."

What is the cause of the prevailing difficulties?

An analysis has shown that the enterprise suffered the heaviest losses through failure to meet contractual commitments.

During the first 6 months the association failed to supply clients with output worth almost R5 million. Furthermore, delivery schedules were changed for articles worth almost R8 million.

Another cause is the irrational utilization of labor resources. It all boils down to extremely poor organization of production and inability to properly manage the enterprise's own and the state's money.

It is well known that the economically accountable [khozraschetnyy] team is the main organizational unit in conditions of self-financing. The association employs 450 teams, but none works on the basis of complete economic accountability. Not only many of the workers, but even team leaders and foremen have no idea of the essence of self-financing.

It is perfectly obvious that the work efficiency of any enterprise is determined by the extent to which new output is better than the old. However, "Petrozavodskbummash" has embarked on the manufacture of articles which, while no better than the old ones in terms of quality, demand 30-40 percent more labor expenditure. The sharp decline in the volume of export deliveries is a typical indicator of the rather poor standard of the equipment it manufactures. Export deliveries now account for less than 7 percent of the total volume of manufactured output. Until quite recently this indicator stood at 30 percent. This has also resulted in considerable material losses for the production workers.

Here is the harsh but fair assessment of the enterprise's financial activity by G. Andronov, deputy manager of the Gosbank's Karelian office:

"The association's leadership pursues a shortsighted or, to put it more simply, incompetent financial policy. It used the credit facilities it obtained mainly for current purposes rather than for the development of production and the enhancement of output quality. The collective wasted about R0.5 million just on fines for late settlement of suppliers' accounts and budget payments in respect to above-normative stocks of raw and other materials. This resulted in bonuses that were not paid, housing that was not built, and equipment that was not purchased.

"We financiers perceive the solution of the problem primarily in getting rid of above-plan raw and other material stocks and of 'work in hand.' This will release current funds for production needs. We can grant new credits, including credits on preferential terms, provided such funds are available.

"Party and government resolutions note that credit facilities cannot be utilized to cover long-term financial difficulties, economic mismanagement, and losses. Banks have been given extensive rights in this context. They can stop granting new credit facilities in the event of systematic breaches of repayment schedules. Moreover, banks have been given the right to declare the insolvency of associations, enterprises, and organizations which fail to promptly settle their suppliers' accounts. These are the measures that could be applied to 'Petrozavodskbummash' unless its financial situation changes radically by year's end. But these measures will be fair. After all, we are essentially talking about receiving only money that has been actually earned."

Today any technological equipment, machine tool, or machine without an electronic "filling" is just a heap of metal. Electronics and computer technology are becoming an inalienable component of the overwhelming majority of machine-building products. But enterprises of the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems are greatly in arrears to their customers, including machine-building sectors. This ministry fails to fulfill the plan for production of program control devices for all kinds of technological equipment. This means that, even being manufactured by other enterprises, it cannot be commissioned and acts like a dead weight. Leningrad's "Elektronmash" Science-and-Production Association, Nevinnomyssk's "Kvant" Association, and Tomsk's "Kontur" Association fail particularly frequently to deliver such program devices. It is time the ministry leadership, local party organs, the labor collectives of these enterprises themselves, and their leaders finally found ways to eliminate laggardness and enhanced the reliability and quality of their so essential products.

A sizable number of leaders of machine-building enterprises are inclined to account for the protracted period of failings and laggardness by pleading objective causes. They name, inter alia, the imbalance between plans and the resources allocated, interruptions in deliveries on the part of subcontractors, and the strictures of state acceptance of products. Well, this might partly account for individual failures. Metalworkers at a number of enterprises of the Ministries of Ferrous and Nonferrous Metallurgy fail to fulfill deliveries of acutely essential ranges. Machine builders themselves also let each other down when supplying subassemblies—bearings, the aforementioned program control devices, electric motors, and so forth. But I believe that a considerable proportion of the causes still lie elsewhere: A large number of people still think and work in the old way both in the upper echelons of management and locally, behind the director's desk and by the machine tool.

The introduction of state acceptance really has increased the labor-intensiveness of products, lengthened their manufacturing cycle, and made new demands on production and labor organization and the standard of leadership. That was only to be expected. Here people must not indulge in reminiscences about the former free-and-easy life or put their trust in future indulgences but roll up their sleeves and instill order in themselves. For this every enterprise must implement specific, well considered scientific and technical measures. For the experience of Minsk Motor Vehicle Plant, Sumy's "Elektron" Association, Dnepropetrovsk Combine Plant, and many other enterprises and associations convincingly confirms that skillful leaders and progressive labor collectives turn the introduction of state acceptance only to the benefit of production, using it to find and eliminate various faults and shortcomings. Of course, high labor and production standards are not acquired at once. But there is no alternative, and it is necessary to study and find these standards. The times dictate this.

Every machine-building sector and every enterprise must have a long-term program of renewal and modernization. These programs exist, but, as is now coming to light, in many instances they are not being fulfilled, and people have forgotten about them in the course of everyday affairs. Yet these programs are meant to be the linchpin of all work, because it is only on the basis of the fundamental retooling of machine building itself that the latter will be able to resolve the tasks which have been set it. Ministry and enterprise party committees must place this question under strict control.

The entire machine-building complex is preparing to switch to full economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing next January. This is a real test of economic maturity. Every sector and every enterprise in the complex must draw up a clear action program to improve the financial position while there is still time for preparation. Economic accountability [khozraschet] does not forgive laxity or poor quality. This is evidenced by the experience of the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, which have gone over to the new conditions and are losing tens of millions of rubles in profits and paying big fines for delivery failures. Carelessness at the start costs dear.

Machine builders are undoubtedly capable of fulfilling the set tasks. It is a matter of honor for them to rectify the situation, eliminate laggardness, and ensure that the sector does not hold back restructuring.

Agricultural

Rain Threatens Completion of Altay Harvest

PM211301 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 19 Sep 87 p 1

[Report by own correspondent N. Chulikhin: "In the Grainfield"]

[Excerpts] Barnaul — This September the working people of the grain-growing Altay are celebrating the kray's 50th anniversary. They are celebrating it not with speeches and fanfares, but with intensive field work. The grain harvest is pretty good. In order to bring it all in, without any losses, it is necessary to compete with the fall every hour and every minute.

A. Mishin, deputy chairman of the kray's agro-industrial committee, supplied some figures. By 15 September 4 million hectares of grain crops had been cut. This is 94 percent of the total area.

Indicators that do not cause trepidation, one might think. But that is if one does not make adjustments for her majesty the weather. In recent days she has obviously not favored the grain growers: The sky has been covered with black clouds and there has been unremitting rain. The forecasters have said that there is also a possibility of snow.

What an example was set by those who managed to meet a tighter deadline! Around 10 rayons in the kray, including the one with the biggest area of grain, Shipunovskiy, have reported completion of the grain harvest. But there are 67 rayons in the kray, counting Gorno-Altay Autonomous Oblast! So the final harvesting days are the most intensive. [passage omitted]

Incidentally, the kray agro-industrial committee has expressed much gratitude for the help given by citizens. There was a special accolade for the drivers of the Moscow combined motor vehicle column. In 37 rayons you might come across trucks carrying the capital's license plates. The Muscovites are setting an example of conscientious work.

But there have also been vexing breakdowns, omissions, and, at times, downright irresponsibility. For instance, at the "Serebropolskiy" Sovkhoz in Tabunskiy Rayon, through the fault of Director V. Okhrimenko and Chief Agronomist P. Shartner, 370 metric tons of grain were left on the threshing floor in the rain and it started to sprout. Instead of saving the harvest the farm leaders started hastily shifting it to the dump. It took intervention by people's control workers to put a stop to the outrage.

In some cases trucks carrying grain have had to wait a long time for unloading at elevators. The railroad ought to work more efficiently on shipping grain.

Today the Altay farmers' main efforts are focused on fields in Zmeinogorskiy, Pankrushikhinskiy, Khabarskiy, and a number of other rayons where there are the biggest harvests, but bad weather has prevented farmers from bring them in on time. The task is a difficult one: To complete harvest work throughout Siberia's main grain area by the end of the second 10-day period, and give the homeland 3.16 million metric tons of grain.

Voroshilovgrad Oblast Meets Grain Sales Plan

PM211323 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Sep 87 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Into the State Granaries"]

[Excerpts] Farmers in Voroshilovgrad Oblast have fulfilled the plan for grain sales to the state: They have filled the country's granaries with 660,000 tonnes of grain. Almost 100,000 tonnes of valuable and durum wheat have been sold. [passage omitted]

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes have fully supplied themselves with seeds and forage grain. Preparing to worthily greet the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, the oblast's rural workers intend to supply the state granaries with a further 60,000 tonnes of grain.

RSFSR Grain Harvest Situation Reported

PM211331 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 19 Sep 87 Second Edition p 1

["RSFSR State Statistics Committee Report"—SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA headline]

[Text] Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the North Caucasus have practically completed the grain harvest and it is nearing completion in the Central Chernozem region. Last week the tempo of harvest work was raised somewhat in West Siberia, where 8,797,000 hectares have been cut (86 percent of the plan) and 7,798,000 hectares have been threshed (76 percent of the sown area). The Altay farmers have been particularly successful in their harvest work. While making every effort to complete it, they are raising the tempo of grain deliveries: Some 2.5 million metric tons of grain have already been delivered toward the fulfillment of pledges and about 100,000 metric tons are arriving at elevators daily. Farms in several rayons of the kray are selling grain in excess of the plan.

In the remaining regions of the RSFSR the rate at which the situation is improving is intolerably slow. In the Urals economic region the harvest work is worse than last year. In Chelyabinsk Oblast the gap between cutting and threshing of grain is too great. Farms in the Volga-Vyatka region were unable to maintain their previous tempo. It is particularly slow in Kirov Oblast and Mari ASSR. The situation is extremely worrying in Kalinin, Kostroma, Smolensk, and Yaroslavl Oblasts, where only 40-50 percent of the grain has been threshed so far.

The very slow rate of harvest work in East Siberia, the Far East, and the North and Northwest economic regions can no longer be tolerated. The maximum mobilization of people and equipment is needed here in order to make maximum use of every hour.

Dolgikh Notes Harvest, Transport Problems

LD200214 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 19 Sep 87

[Excerpts] An all-union telephone hookup organized by the Ministry of Railways was held today at which urgent matters concerning the railwaymen and their partners were discussed. [passage omitted]

Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and CPSU Central Committee secretary, took part in the phone-in conference and had this to say:

[Begin Dolgikh recording] The Secretariat of our party's Central Committee considers it necessary to hold this phone-in conference with the participation of the heads of party and local soviet bodies to discuss the special situation: the sharp deterioration in weather conditions around the country that has extraordinarily complicated the gathering of the harvest and the work to ready the national economy for winter. First a word about rural areas. In a number of regions the harvesting work has been moved back by many weeks. Time is growing increasingly short. At the moment, in the country attention is rivetted on the affairs and concerns of the farmers everywhere. Essentially, it is a question of supplying the population with foodstuffs. An enormous role is assigned to the transport workers—primarily the railwaymen—in solving this complicated and highly responsible task. They are called on to ensure that the lines are clear for the harvest and to deliver produce to the consumers on time.

At the same time, the state of transportation of agricultural cargoes is giving rise to serious anxiety. There is a great lack of organization. In the last few days, an extremely critical situation has taken shape regarding the transportation of fruit and vegetables from the republics of Central Asia, Azerbaijan, Moldavia, the Northern Caucasus, and the Astrakhan Oblast. To prevent the produce from spoiling, to speed up the unloading of it, we must at least double the number of rail cars being sent to those regions. However, this task is currently being solved in a rather inefficient manner.

It should be stressed that this situation occurred primarily because of a lack of coordination in the actions of the produce suppliers and the railwaymen. Lack of coordination between partner organizations frequently leads to freight cars being sent where produce is not ready for them, while those stations where the produce is ready are not given cars. Such facts are being reported to us from Central Asia, above all about the Central Asian railway, where 400 train cars were not delivered to the loading front yesterday; similarly, freight dispatchers in Uzbekistan have failed to provide a considerable number of cars—almost the same amount. The picture is the same in Turkmenia. The situation is unfavorable on the Northern Caucasus railway, in Astrakhan Oblast. In many rayons loading work has been organized unsatisfactorily. Essential checking is not being done by the local party and soviet bodies.

Comrades, surely today you cannot accept the argument that there are no roads, that produce is not being delivered on time, and so on and so forth. Why then do we send the cars there? How do we expect to provide our people with these products? The local agricultural bodies are not giving the Ministry of Railways reliable, timely information about fruit and vegetables being ready for loading, nor are they making accurate requests for transport cars.

This is the situation in the Krasnodar Kray, in Astrakhan Oblast. The railway and section managers should now have the closest possible contacts with the procurement organizations on the true state of affairs, and the minister of railways was right to make the relevant demands in this respect.

It should be stressed, comrades, that while there is a shortage of cars, poor use is being made of refrigerated cars. Now we are talking about Moscow. I think the People's Control Committee, both at the center and locally, should take these points under the strictest control and call the specific culprits to account. If we do not establish order where shunting and loading resources are concerned, then it will be impossible for us to count on successfully making the relevant output.

The transport and procurement organizations must coordinate immediately; I repeat, comrades, they must immediately coordinate with the collective and state farms schedules giving the dates for the despatch of output from each station. This is a task of the state agro-industrial complex bodies, which are still working with insufficient responsibility in this regard.

As you see, there are very many shortcomings in the transportation of agricultural produce, and the tasks are very great ones. Both at the center and locally, consignments of agricultural output must now be given priority. The task of railwaymen, of agro-industrial complex workers, of local soviet and party organs now consists of ensuring that all the agricultural produce that has been harvested is transported. The end of the quarter is approaching. At the end of the quarter, as usual, the industrial enterprises make great efforts to fulfil the pledges that have been undertaken and to despatch all the output to consumers. But transportation means are getting smaller, and this is primarily because of unsatisfactory use being made of cars at enterprises. I would like to draw particular attention to this point.

The Central Committee receives many telegrams from local party and local soviet bodies, and from managers in the economy, asking for assistance in stepping up the provision of cars. At the same time, the proper measures for making better use of them are not being taken locally. We would now like to appeal to the leaders of local party and soviet bodies to pay the most serious attention to the solution of this task and to the unloading of open trucks by enterprises in all industries in our national economy at the proper time. This rolling stock is needed primarily for the loading of agricultural output and fuel. [end recording]

Leaders Attend Tea Production Conference

PM181325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Sep 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Conference at CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A conference was held 11 September at the CPSU Central Committee to discuss measures to increase tea production and improve the quality of tea.

Ye.K. Ligachev and V.P. Nikonov, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee, G.P. Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the secretaries of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, and Krasnodar Kraykom, the heads of a number of ministries and departments, agro-industrial committees, tea farms, and tea factories, scientists, leading production workers, and executives of the CPSU Central Committee apparatus took part in the conference.

The main speaker, Ye.I. Sizenko, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, noted that attention to the tea growing industry has slackened of late. Many farms and tea factories are flagrantly violating agricultural techniques for cultivating and processing the tea plant.

Analyzing the state of affairs in the sector, the speaker dwelt on measures which should be taken in the immediate future. These include measures to considerably increase the size of tea plantations, replant old plantations, more boldly introduce new, high-yield varieties, and assimilate progressive technology. It is also planned to considerably speed up the reconstruction of land reclamation systems and commission additional machinery at tea industry enterprises.

A great deal of attention was devoted to the questions of improving the economic mechanism in the sector and economic relations.

D.I. Patiashvili, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, noted in his speech that restructuring has revealed a considerable number of shortcomings in the development of tea growing.

The republic's party committees and economic bodies have failed to devote proper attention to the quality aspect. This has been encouraged by the imperfect economic mechanism, which has stimulated an increase in bulk tea harvests to the detriment of tea quality. D.I. Patiashvili reported on the measures being taken in the republic to increase the size of tea plantations, improve the quality of the finished product, and resolve social problems in the sector.

M.S. Mamedov, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, L.B. Vasilyev, USSR minister of machine building for light and food industry and household appliances, and other participants in the conference devoted their speeches to the questions of tea processing and the retooling of factories.

V.G. Meunargiya, team leader at the Georgian SSR Ingirskiy Agro-Industrial Tea Combine, Hero of Socialist Labor, and USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and Sh.A. Dovlatov, director of the 24th Party Congress Sovkhoz in the Azerbaijan SSR, talked about the need to strictly observe tea production and processing techniques, enhance the responsibility of agricultural and industrial processing workers for the quality of the tea, and introduce the state acceptance system at tea factories and machine building enterprises and discussed the extensive introduction of the collective contract.

V.P. Tsanava, deputy director of the All-Union Science and Production Association for Tea and Subtropical Crops, devoted his speech to the problems of intensifying scientific research in tea growing and rapidly assimilating results in production.

The conference was addressed by Ye.K. Ligachev. Noting the serious concern aroused by the current state of affairs with regard to the country's tea production and its declining quality, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed the need to take cardinal measures to rapidly raise the country's tea production to a new scientific and production level. He criticized party, soviet, and economic bodies in the Georgian and Azerbaijan union republics for serious shortcomings in the leadership of this sector.

In recent years flagrant violations of agricultural techniques for cultivating and, in particular, for harvesting the tea plant have been allowed to occur in the work of many farms. In an effort to overfulfill plans for the surrender of raw tea to the state, the harvesting of tea leaves which exceed the optimum size has become widespread, which has produced a sharp deterioration in tea quality and has had an adverse effect on tea plantations' productivity. Many plantations need to be replanted.

The tea growing industry is making poor use of intensive development factors such as the introduction of new varieties of tea, irrigation, the scientifically based use of organic and mineral fertilizers, and comprehensive mechanization. The processing sector's material and technical base is not up to requirements.

All this, Ye.K. Ligachev emphasized, means that the quality of tea has sharply deteriorated recently, which is provoking a large number of justified complaints from consumers.

Following instructions from the CPSU Central Committee, the relevant central departments together with local bodies in the tea growing republics are now developing and implementing measures to radically improve the state of affairs in this sector and primarily to improve the quality of the tea produced.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee drew the attention of local organs to the need to increase the area of tea plantations by incorporating land suited to cultivating this crop. It is essential in this connection to review the specialization and concentration of agricultural production in tea growing regions in the light of scientific and practical recommendations.

The USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources must implement more effective measures to develop the Kolkhida lowland in Georgia and build and modernize irrigation and drainage systems for the tea plantations.

USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee bodies have been set the task of ensuring the introduction of intensive, virtually waste-free techniques, their strict observance, and the broad dissemination of new organizational forms in the interests of obtaining a top-quality end product and increasing all production units' interest in this.

The USSR Ministry of Agricultural Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, and the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee have been instructed to accelerate the manufacture of up-to-date, highly efficient machinery and equipment for cultivating tea and retooling factories engaged in primary processing and packaging.

Ye.K. Ligachev underlined the importance of enhancing the personal material and moral interest and responsibility of workers in this sector with regard to increasing the production of high quality tea on the basis of economic accountability, the collective and family contract, and the comprehensive solution of social issues.

Media Report 17-19 September Developments

LD210130 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, for 17-19 September. GMT times of broadcasts are goven in parentheses at the end of each item.

17 September

In eastern regions of the USSR, rain is slowing down the grain harvest. In east Siberian forms, for example, only one-fifth of the crop fields total has been threshed; in the northwest of the RSFSR only one-third has been threshed. The harvest is progressing slowly also in the Leningrad, Kalinin, Kostroma, and Novgorod Oblasts. In West Siberia and Kazakhstan there is an alarming gap between harvested and threshed crops. In the Altay Kray, for example, daily 100,000 hectares of fields are harvested: this seems to be a high speed, but the threshing is lagging behind—the gap between harvested and threshed crops is almost 1 million hectares there at present. (0808)

Agricultural workers in the Kurgan Oblast are facing a difficult situation: grain crops from 500,000 hectares have not yet been threshed; maize for fodder has not been harvested from one quarter of the total area, vegetables must be picked; and the gathering of potatoes is in progress, too. The field work is taking place in persistent rain. All efforts are being made to save the harvest: industrial workers are helping with the harvest, drying facilities at grain procurement centers are working at full capacity accepting grain with any level of moisture. (1100)

Stavropol Kray formers began mass winter crop sowing today on fertile well-tended land. They have to implant wheat and barley on 1.6 million hectares. More than half the kray's winter bread grains will be farmed intensively. Wheat will be sown on almost all the fallow tracts of land allocated for winter crops, about 700,000 hectares. Almost a third of a million hectares of fodder winter crops also have to be sown. (1100)

In Kazakhstan, grain crops have been harvested from 20 million hectares out of the total 23.5 million hectares. More than 8 million tonnes of grain have been sold to the state so far, which represents 50 percent of the state plan. Harvest in northern Kazakhstan is taking place in extremely difficult conditions: it has been raining for 3 weeks almost nonstop. Measures are being taken to save the harvest: 3,000 additional combine harvesters and lorries have been sent there from other areas, people from towns are helping with the harvest. Drying facilities at elevators are working round-the-clock. (1100)

Yevgeniy Sizenko, the first deputy chairman of the State Agro-Industrial Committee, says crops must be taken in in the eastern regions as fast as possible, within 2 or 3 weeks. The weather forecasts are not good. These factors involve grain, vegetabes, and other crops. Measures must be taken to deal with these problems: at present the grain crop, with the exception of corn, has been harvested on almost 100 million hectares. (Moscow World Service in English, 1310)

Political Observer V. Ivashchenko reports the situation remains very very tense in the country's wheatfields. There are still almost 20 million hectares of our main food crop, wheat, standing. It is primarily in regions such as Siberia, N. Kazakhstan, and Altay where the crop is not yet harvested. Late ripening, rain, and frosts have created a truly extreme situation there, a situation that requires extreme measures in all links of our gigantic harvesting-transportation complex. (Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1700)

18 September

About 40 percent of the harvest in the east of the USSR has not yet been reaped, and the weather is very poor. In the Omsk, Novosibirsk, and Tselinograd areas: over 97 percent of the sown area has been threshed in Omsk Oblast despite the poor weather. This success is the fruit of team contracting. A yield of 14.5 quintals per hectare has been achieved on an area of 2.2 million hectares, not bad for the dry conditions this year. About 1 million tonnes of grain have been handed over. In Novosibirsk Oblast, 1.7 million hectares have been threshed to date, and 1 million tonnes of grain have been delivered, which is four-fifths of the plan. Despite the bad weather, work is going well. In Tselinograd Oblast, for the past few days there has been virtually no harvest work done because of the bad weather. Water in some fields is up to the knees. Today the combines may go out if the sun shines. Winter is just round the corner and the farmers are eager to get the harvest in. To date about three quarters of the grain crops have been threshed despite the bad weather, whereas in the neighboring Kokchetav and Kustanay Oblasts they are far behind, although conditions are identical. This year the farms were allowed to decide for themselves when to start harvesting, instead of being instructed as in previous years. This independence was a great help in contributing to their success. (0810)

In Altay, grains remain to be threshed here on 500,000 hectares, almost 15 percent of the bread grain area. Farms yield about between 80,000 tonnes to 100,000 tonnes of grain for storage or processing daily. In Tyumen Oblast, bread grains and pulses have been threshed on 70 percent of the area. (1100)

Altay famers have delivered 2.5 million tonnes of grain to date. Voroshilovgrad Oblast farmers have fulfilled the grain sales plan. They have delivered 660,000 tonnes. (Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1200)

Farmers of Voroshilovgrad Oblast have fulfilled the plan for sales of grain to the state, 660,000 tonnes. Almost 100,000 tonnes of valuable and strong wheat have been marketed. Yields were almost 8 quintals per hectare up from last year. (1300)

Vyacheslav Ivanovich Chernoivanov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, says in the present exceptional situation, characterized by heavy rainfall, intensive use is being made of farm machinery in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan and in the Siberian region to gather the harvest. As of the beginning of this week, cereal and pulse crops had been mown over nearly 92 million hectares. That is 85 percent of the sown area. Threshing has taken place on 84 million hectares, which is 91 percent of the mown quantity. However, more than 17 million hectares of cereals are still standing. Machinery and manpower are being mobilized to complete the harvesting operation. All available drying installations are being used to dry out the rainsodden grain. Where farms have insufficient facilities, the grain is sent straight to the elevators for drying. (1500)

Rains are hampering harvest work. In some places they are into their third week with little let-up. In Kokchetav Oblast, where the situation is very serious, bread grains are lying in swathes on approximately 800,000 hectares. In Tselinograd Oblast many fields are being harvested by direct combining, which brings the side benefit of savings fuel, and requirements for vehicle transportation and manpower are reduced. Rain has been virtually nonstop in the last few weeks. Potato harvesting is the number one priority at present. On average throughout the republic 180 quintals per hectare are being obtained from fields farmed using intensive technology, but harvesting and preserving the crop is a matter beset with problems because of rains. In Vitebsk Oblast, some fields have become flooded with water. This problem applies to the republic as a whole. There are still shortages of reliable and highly-productice machinery. The republican Gosagroprom has reported that 130,000 students are doing harvesting work at the moment to save the harvest. Technical and manpower resources presently available at farms make it possible to harvest almost 20,000 hectares every day in the republic. Mechanizers have not yet attained this rate, but measures being taken to carry out potato combining using all hours available mean that rates are rising every day. (1046)

Emergency measures are being taken in the Soviet Union to complete grain harvesting. According to estimates by the agrarian and industrial complex committee, this year's grain crop is one of the largest in the past few years. But the cold and rainy weather over a greater part of the country's territory hampered the harvesting. This is particularly true of the eastern regions where one-third of the grain fields are situated. In northwestern areas, part of the fields have been flooded following heavy rains. Additional machinery is being sent to agricultural areas, and many of the towns' people have volunteered to help in the harvesting. (Moscow World Service in English, 1100)

Farmers of Karaganda Oblast have fulfilled annual plan for the delivery of grain to the state. Granaries have been filled with 493,600 tonnes of grain. The delivery of grain is continuing. (1800)

In Chelyabinsk Oblast, for the third week now it has rained heavily in the south of Urals. Harvesting has been practically halted in the fields of Chelyabinsk Oblast. Only about half of the area sown in bread and pulse crops has been threshed. On almost 500,000 hectares bread grain material has been cut and has been staying in windrows for a long time. Only a fifth of the potato harvest, a third of vegetable crops, a tenth of root crops have been harvested. Much work still needs to be done in preparing hay and silage crops. Not just weather has stalled the work in the fields. In some farms, harvesting equipment has not been prepared and this has had its effect. A long pause has occurred between cutting and threshing bread grain. In some places the cutting of silage maize has not started even selectively in those areas where it was possible for harvesting equipment to work. There are also miscalculations in the organization of work. A grat deal can now be done only manually: to roll bread grain, lift potatoes, carrots, and beets. As never before villages need working hands. This morning 30,000 Chelyabinsk residents and residents from other cities of the southern Urals have left for the fields of state and collective farms. They will be having neither Saturday nor Sunday off. Among city residents there are those who have perceived the appeal for harvest help as a recommendation to take care of personal granaries. (1900)

19 September

The growers of Karaganda Oblast have fulfilled their plan for grain sales to the state. They have handed over 493,600 tonnes of grain.

More than 6,000 drivers from Moscow worked today in the Altay. As a result of the day's work, about 100,000 tonnes of choice grain was delivered to the granaries, and more than 90,000 tonnes of agricultural freight were transported by Moscow drivers. (1400)

Since the start of September there has been scarcely a day without rain in Chelyabinsk Oblast. About 1 million hectares of grain crops have still not been harvested. On almost half that area the grain crops have been harvested, but they are sprouting. Over 100,000 town-dwellers and rural workers have gone to help the harvesting teams. Rain is falling nearly every day in Kokchetav Oblast, and almost 1 million hectares of cereals have still not been harvested. (1100)

The farmers from Belgorod Oblast completed the sowing of winter crops, covering an area of more than 400,000 hectares. The Kirghizian beet growers calculate a high yield from the winter sowing. Smaller areas of 14,000 hectares have been sown. However, the some quantity of harvest as before is planned. The growth in the yield of the sown area will be ensured by improved technology of the management of the crop. For the first time the seeds have been embedded in areas that were watered before plowing. (0600)